THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Two ex-IAF pilots among 3 dead in chopper crash

Two former IAF pilots and an engineer were killed after a helicopter crashed and caught fire near Pune city on Wednesday. The chopper took off from a golf course near Pune and was headed to Juhu when it crashed. Primary information pointed to fog as the cause of the accident. A detailed probe is underway, police said. The Agusta 109 helicopter belonged to Delhi-based Heritage Aviation. At the time of the crash, it was on hire by the Nationalist Congress Party

IRAN'S OIL RIGS, NUKE SITES COULD FACE RETALIATORY ISRAEL STRIKES

Biden advises against hitting N-sites; 8 IDF men killed in S Lebanon

AGENCIES

ISRAEL is reportedly gearing up to launch a blistering counter-attack to cripple Iran, which fired over 180 ballistic missiles on Tuesday in a major escalation of tensions in West Asia. According to reports in Israeli media, Iran's strategic infrastructure, especially oil rigs, will be targeted. Also on the table are direct attacks on Iran's nuclear sites, said news reports citing Israeli officials.

The development further complicates Israel's multi-front war as the country is advancing its ground offensive against Hezbollah in Lebanon while still mounting attacks in Gaza to keep Hamas militants down.

On Wednesday, Israel said it lost eight soldiers in southern Lebanon during a ground offensive against Hezbollah. In Gaza, Israeli ground and air operations reportedly killed over 50 people.

Meanwhile, Israel's foreign minister said he would bar UN secretary-general Antonio Guterres's entry into his country because of bias.

Earlier in the day, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convened a crucial meeting with security chiefs at the IDF headquarters in Tel Aviv, his office said. The meeting, held hours before the Rosh Hashanah holiday to mark the Jewish New Year, is learnt to have discussed and decided Israel's response to Iran's attack.

Former Israeli PM Naftali Bennett also called for a strike on Iran's nuclear infrastructure and energy facilities. "We have the justification. We have the tools," he wrote on X.

US news site Axios reported that Israel has plans to take out Iran's air defence systems and also set off targeted assassinations.

An attack on Iranian oil facilities could push back the country's economy by years, while destroying the air defence systems would make it more vulnerable. Political assassinations, if carried out, might set the stage for a regime change in Iran.

If Iran's nuclear facilities are hit, experts fear it will push the conflict to a no-return point.

On Wednesday, US President Joe Biden said he will not support an Israeli attack on sites related to Tehran's nuclear programme. "The answer is no," he said when asked if he would support such retaliation. P11

People climb on the debris of an Iranian missile intercepted by Israel, near Arad, southern Israel | AP

Avoid all non-essential travel to Iran: MEA

In the wake of the escalating tensions, India on Wednesday advised its citizens to avoid all non-essential travel to Iran. The Ministry of External Affairs also urged the Indian nationals presently residing in Iran to remain vigilant and stay in contact with the Indian Embassy in Tehran

Over-the-counter sale ban on morning-after pill soon

SINDUJA JANE @ Chennai

THE Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) is likely to recommend a ban on the over-the-counter (OTC) sale of all hormonal contraceptive drugs, including oral emergency contraceptive pills (ECP).

An expert sub-committee formed by CDSCO is all set to recommend that the Drugs and Cosmetic Rules of 1945 be suitably amended to make them prescription-only drugs. This newspaper has learnt that the panel will soon submit a report.

At present, under the National Reproductive and Child Health Programme, the Drug Controller General of India (DGCI) allows the sale of 0.75 mg tablets of Levonorgestrel without prescription as an emergency contraceptive. ECPs, better known as the morning-after pill, were introduced in India in 2002 and can prevent a pregnancy if taken within 72 hours of unprotected sex.

EXPRESS CLUSIVE

Experts say the availability of the drug OTC help prevent unwanted pregnancies and avert abortions. However, in Tamil Nadu, and other parts of India, ECPs are notoriously difficult to access at pharmacies. Other hormonal contraceptives available OTC include the Combined Oral Contraceptive (containing estrogen and progestin, it is taken daily) and the Progestin Only Pill (also taken daily).

Interestingly, the six-member expert sub-committee was formed after the Tamil Nadu government proposed a ban on the OTC sale of hormonal contraceptives citing "its irrational usage" at the 62nd Drugs Consultative Committee meeting held in September 2023. The sub-committee's mandate was to study the issue and make a recommendation on whether such a ban is needed. Dr Pinkee Saxena, professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Lady Hardinge Medical College, is the chair of the sub-committee. Its other members include M N Sridhar, Joint Director of Drugs Control cum Controlling Authority (in-charge), and a representative from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

A highly-placed source privy to the deliberations said the panel it is overwhelmingly in favour of making prescriptions from a physician mandatory for the purchase of contraceptives, including ECPs.

CONTINUED ON: P9

MUDA case: Snehamayi to appear before ED today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mysuru

THE Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued summons to RTI activist **Snehamayi Krishna**, who has filed a complaint against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah over irregularities in allotment of sites by the Mysore Urban Development Authority (MUDA), to appear before it on Thursday.

Confirming this, Krishna told TNIE that the ED has summoned him for an inquiry at its Bengaluru office. "I will go there with all documents and records in connection with the investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002," he said.

Meanwhile, the Third Additional Civil and JMFC Court here has issued a non-bailable warrant against Krishna for failing to appear before it in a cheque bounce case. The case was filed against him on June 30, 2015, by one Kumar.

Krishna could not attend the court hearing on Tuesday as he had to appear before the Mysuru Lokayukta Police officers, who are probing the MUDA case against Siddaramaiah and other accused. "I will attend the next court hearing," he said.

DASARA BEGINS

Mysuru has been decked up for the ten-day Dasara festivities, which will be inaugurated by writer Ham Pa Nagarajaiah, atop Chamundi Hills on Thursday | UDAYASHANKAR S | P4

EXPRESS READ

Delhi police seize drugs worth Rs 5,800 crore

New Delhi: The Special Cell of the Delhi police busted an international drug cartel and seized contraband worth Rs 5,820 crore in what is billed as the biggest haul in the national capital. Over 560 kg of cocaine and 40 kg of hydroponic marijuana were seized. While the kingpin of the cartel is said to be in Dubai, the police have arrested four local players | P10

Extravagant Spectacle of
Tradition & Culture
Nada Habba Mysuru Dasara

Department of Information and Public Relations

MYSURU DASARA
Celebration Since 1610 AD

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

Inauguration by offering pooja to
Nada Devathe Sri Chamundeshwari Devi
Date: 03.10.2024
Time: From 9.15 AM to within 9.45 AM.
Venue: Chamundi Hills, Mysuru.

Inauguration by
Nadoja Dr. Hampa Nagarajaiah
Eminent Senior Litterateur

"By the divine grace of Nada Devathe Chamundeshwari, mother nature has been benevolent with abundant rains, filling up our dams, leading to bountiful crops. Dasara celebrations have increased manifold with glorious amalgamation of culture and tradition.
I wish that the people of Karnataka take this opportunity to enjoy the experience of the grand festivities."
- Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister

Come,
together let us celebrate
our Nada Habba Dasara

As is enshrined in our Constitution, to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

CMofKarnataka
https://dipr.karnataka.gov.in

karnataka information

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

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ALMANAC TODAY
• **Thursday:** 03.10.2024 • **Year:** Krodhi • **Ayana:** Dakshinayana
• **Ritu:** Sharad • **Masa:** Ashwayuja • **Paksha:** Shukla • **Tithi:** Prathami 12.25 am
• **Nakshatra:** Hastha 3.27 pm • Moon in Tula Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 01:30 pm to 03:00pm
• **Gulikakala:** 09:00 am to 10:30 am • **Yamaganda:** 03:00 am to 04:30 am

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST
Thunderstorms. Overcast

Sunrise 06.09 am
Sunset 06.08 pm
Moonrise 06.23 am
Moonset 06.28 pm

Online power bill payments to be affected from Oct 4-7

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) will undertake upgradation of its IT infrastructure from October 4 to October 7. During this period, though the electricity supply will not be affected, consumers will be unable to make online bill payments, use mobile applications and the consumer portal. Store transactions will also not be available, the energy department said on Wednesday.

An official release said BESCOM will undertake upgradation of restructured accelerated power development and reforms programme of its IT applications as part of the IPDS IT Phase-2 project. The Phase-1 upgradation was completed on March 20, 2024.

BESCOM Managing Director Mahantesh Bilagi said, "BESCOM is the nodal agency for the implementation of the IT project for all ESCOMs in Karnataka, covering towns with a population of over 30,000. We assure our consumers and stakeholders that the new applications will enhance efficiency and improve user experience once operational. Training of field officers has been completed to ensure a smooth transition, and additional sessions are ongoing for other ESCOM officials."

During the downtime, consumers will be unable to use the services for processing new connections, name and tariff changes, name transfers and temporary connections. Places to be affected are: Bengaluru, Shiddlaghatta, Chikkaballapur, Kolar, Chintamani, Kanakapura, Ramanagara, Davanagere, Chitradurga, Tumakuru, Sira, Channapatna, Anekal, Mulabagilu, Bangarapet, Hosakote, Doddaballapur, KGF, Challakere, Kunigal, Harappanahalli, Harihara, Hiriyur, Tiptur and Gauribidanur.

HC directs state to pay ₹10L to MBBS student

Petitioner, a chess player, was 'erroneously' not given admission under sports quota

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court directed the state government to pay Rs 10 lakh to an MBBS student to compensate for the loss caused by wrongly categorising her for a private seat instead of under sports quota.

A division bench of Chief Justice N V Anjaria and Justice K V Aravind passed the order while disposing of the petition filed by Sanjana Raghunath, a chess player from HSR Layout in the city. "The petitioner is compelled to pay approximately Rs 11,88,000 per year. The additional financial burden on the petitioner to spend a higher amount for her MBBS course is a result of the action of the authorities being arbitrary and in breach of the rules and regulations, which affected the rights of the petitioner and her further prospects," the court said.

The court noted that the state has committed a serious error in placing the petitioner in the category P-V and not in P-I as contended. The petitioner is pursuing MBBS from a private seat due to the arbitrary action of the state. The court recognises the volume of time and money spent on pursuing the sport, apart from the sacrifice of academic training.

Advocate M P Srikantha, representing the petitioner, submitted that Sanjana was aspiring to become a doctor. She appeared in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (UG of 2022-23) and scored a good rank. She filed an application seeking admission to government seats in medical colleges against the quota reserved for sports. Instead of considering her in Preference-I or P-III category, she was given P-V and placed at Sl. No.9 in the provisional eligibility list. Hence, she approached the high court seeking directions to consider her case against a seat reserved for sports quota, he argued.

During the pendency of the petition, sports quota seats were filled and she was admitted to the MBBS course on a private seat.

The Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) contended that admission to the academic year 2023-24 was complete and she was studying at Sapthagiri Institute of Medical Sciences in the city and cannot be considered under sports quota as it will affect the entire selection process. The state government contended that the list of eligible candidates is prepared as per Rule 9(1)(B) of the Karnataka Selection of Candidates for Admission to Government Seats in Professional Educational Institution Rules, 2006.

Also, stating that performance of the candidate is considered for the study period between Class 8 to 12, the state government contended that participation and winning medals would be considered between June 1, 2018, and March 31, 2023, as per circular dated June 23, 2023, and any achievement thereafter is not considered.

However, the court noted that the circular cannot have an overriding effect on Rule 9 of the Rules 2006 and hence the reliance by the state on the cut-off date is not sustainable.

Impossible to kill ideas of Gandhi: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said it is impossible to kill the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi, and called upon people to defeat the BJP's conspiracy to turn the Mahatma's India into Godse's India.

At a 'Gandhi Bharat' programme organised at the Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee office on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, the CM attacked the opposition BJP, saying Nathuram Godse is the standard-bearer of the saffron party. "Gandhi is the soul of India. The consciousness of India. Godse should not be allowed to grow here. Society should not be allowed to be divided in the name of religion or caste," he said, stressing that communal forces should be defeated.

In the Belagavi session, Gandhi gave a message emphasising on Hindu-Muslim unity, Swaraj and Sarvodaya, the CM said adding that these are the principles and programme of the Congress. Slamming the BJP, Siddaramaiah said, "We implemented the guarantees for the prosperity of all castes, races and religions, but the BJP is spreading misinformation against these populist programmes, and insulting the beneficiaries."

Meanwhile, at the Gandhi Jayanti celebration at Vidhana Soudha, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said Gandhi was a champion of peace and a great leader who taught the mantra of peace to the entire world.

The CM, DyCM and others took a pledge for a clean and green Bengaluru as part of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's initiative to mark the celebration. Around 800 students also took pledges with the state leaders at Vidhana Soudha.

Shivakumar also carried a torch and took part in 'Gandhi Nadige', a walk on Queen's Road and MG Road to spread Gandhi's ideas.

At a book release event organised by Jagrutha Karnataka and Harshini Prakashana, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said Godse, who killed Gandhi, was influenced by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's ideas. "It is an alarming development that we have doubts whether Savarkar's ideas are winning over Gandhi's today," said Rao, adding that Savarkar was from the Brahmin community, but was a meat eater who advocated non-vegetarianism.

"Savarkar looks modernist in a way, but there is no doubt that he was a fundamentalist. Fundamentalism is not Indian culture. It came from Europe and Savarkar was influenced by it. But Gandhi is a vegetarian and he has great faith in our culture and traditions," said Rao.

BBMP Administrator SR Umashankar and BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath offered floral tributes to the Gandhi Statue on MG Road. As part of the celebration, inter-faith programmes like recitations from the Gita, Bible and Quran were held.

At Raj Bhavan, Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot paid tribute to the Father of the Nation by garlanding his statue and offering flowers in a heartfelt homage.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy CM D K Shivakumar, ministers and Congress leaders take out a march from Gandhi Bhavan to Vidhana Soudha on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on Wednesday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

CM DISTRIBUTES AWARDS TO JOURNALISTS

In a programme organised by the Department of Information and Public Relations, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah distributed the TSR Memorial Award to senior journalists Shivaji Ganeshan, Shrikanthacharya Manoora, R Poornima, Padmaraja Dandavathi and Sarjoo Katkar. The Mohare Hanumantharaya Journalism Award was bestowed on senior journalists Rajeeva Kidiyura, Indudhara Honnapura, N Manjunath, Chandrashekar Palethadi and Shivalingappa Doddamani. The CM also distributed Gandhi Seva Awards on the occasion.

HIGH COURT PERMITS KSPCB CHAIRMAN TO COMPLETE TERM

Bengaluru: The Karnataka High Court has permitted Dr Shanth A Thimmaiah to continue as member and chairman of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) till his tenure expires as per his appointment through the notification dated November 15, 2021. The tenure of Thimmaiah will come to an end on November 14, 2024. He moved the court against his removal from the post with a notification dated May 31, 2024, issued by the Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment. **ENS**

Virtual talk by Gaganyaan astronaut

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Wednesday said IAF Group Captain Angad Pratap, four astronauts selected for the Gaganyaan mission, will deliver a virtual talk -- Who Can Become an Astronaut – at 4 pm on Friday. The talk is being organised as part of World Space Week, which is observed from October 4 to 10, to celebrate the contributions of space science and technology for the betterment of humanity.

The theme for 2024 as per the United Nations is 'Space and Climate Change'. It has been chosen to celebrate the transformative impact of space and technology in the battle against climate change and emphasise the proactive role of space exploration in understanding and managing the Earth's climate.

Those interested can register for the interaction on the ISRO website.

Panic button, 24x7 CCTV, sanitary pad dispenser... smart bus stand opens in city

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A SMART bus stand, first of the three coming up in the city, equipped with 24x7 CCTV camera, panic button, bus information display and rainwater harvesting system as well as featuring amenities like sanitary pad dispenser, charging points and snack vending machine, was inaugurated on Nrupathunga Road on Wednesday.

Shilpa Foundation, in association with Sapiens India Pvt Ltd, handed over the bus stand to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) as part of their corporate social responsibility initiative. Named Smart Nildhana, the bus stand will be maintained by the foundation. By October-end, two more such smart bus stands will be opened at Adugodi's Nexus Mall and at Kadubeesanhalli on the Outer Ring Road.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy dedicated the bus stand to the public. Achyuth Gowda, founder of Shilpa Foundation, and representatives from Sapiens were present.

The CCTVs and panic buttons are connected to the local police station to ensure prompt response. Women can access sanitary pads by scanning a QR code 24x7. The station also features sensor-based garbage bins that segregate waste and notify maintenance teams once they are full, ensuring timely disposal.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy inaugurates the smart bus stand on Nrupathunga Road on Wednesday | EXPRESS

HDK rides ATV, flies drone at IISc Centre of Excellence

Bengaluru: Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries H D Kumaraswamy took a ride in an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) and interacted with scientists during his visit to the Indian Institute of Science Centre of Excellence at the HMT Campus on Wednesday. The ATV has been designed for use in agricultural activities. The scientists informed the minister that the ATV can be deployed in high and steep areas and will be useful to farmers involved in commercial agriculture, especially in arecanut, coconut, tea and coffee plantations. Kumaraswamy also inspected drones developed for various purposes. He tried his hand at flying a new generation drone and landed it safely. He also visited the robotics section and saw robots deployed for agriculture. He lauded the scientists for their research. On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti and National Cleanliness Day, he took part in a cleanliness campaign with civic workers at the Centre for Excellence. **ENS**

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

03rd October: Taurus is my sign of the moment. I'm a great admirer of people born under this sector of the zodiac. Or, at least, of their finer qualities! You can do no worse than choose a Taurean to feature amongst your closest friends. They'll stand by you through thick and thin – and who could ask for more?

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The current relationship between Venus and Neptune is a delight for any astrologer to behold, for the one adds charm while the other favours fantasy. The consequences for you are wonderful, and include a great deal of love, affection and satisfaction. Open your heart.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Although the general planetary configuration is favourable, you may have to wait until this evening for positive indications. Do spend a little time in quiet reflection today, if at all possible. After all, some of the answers to your many questions are right in front of your nose!

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
There was a time when you appeared to be on a collision course. Some of you, a minority, actually got to the point where confrontation was unavoidable. But the majority found that a threatened dispute has gradually disappeared or become utterly pointless.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Reality is not always your first option, but just what is real, anyway? With a simple reversal of some of your basic attitudes you can turn the current situation on its head and find fresh solutions to tired old problems. This also, by the way, happens to be a moment to focus your mind on the practical details.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You are about to have the chance to put your plans into effect, so there is no turning back or opting out. Feel free to insist that others give your ideas a chance. Consider your professional and worldly ambitions, and try to decide whether to set off on a new course, or leave it until next time around.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
It is tiresome when other people tell you what to do, especially when it's none of their business. Only you know best, and you must not allow partners, loved ones or friends to influence your judgment. Resurrect any forgotten overseas contacts, especially with former lovers and family members who reside in foreign parts.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Individuals who exercise a degree of power must be won over with charm. Nothing else will do. People who feel pushed into a corner will react sharply, and will not appreciate your efforts to get your own way. And those who feel ignored might blame you for not paying them enough attention!

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Financial plans should be formulated as fast as possible. In fact, I'd suggest that you go ahead and present partners with a fait accompli. Female friends and sensitive types offer the best advice, perhaps because the qualities required at the moment are highly intuitive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Social events are moving your way, so you now have a splendid opportunity to mend fences. Enjoy yourself today, for soon you receive reminders of all those boring chores and duties. In matters of the heart, try to follow your own desires, rather than being pressurised by social or family expectations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Even though certain individuals have taken sides against you, there seems to be little to bother you. Mercury and Venus form a favourable team, encouraging you to go for discreet get-togethers rather than riotous gatherings. You'll be anxious to see that everyone has a fair crack of the whip.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
The period immediately after the weekend will bring unexpected benefits, so if you're straining at the leash now, do be patient. Social stars look favourable and a recent tiff should now be ancient history. If someone else doesn't hold out the hand of friendship first, then you get on and make the necessary moves.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Practical decisions may be taken around midday or, if they concern private partnerships, early this evening. If spending is on the agenda, today offers all the chances you need. Conditions at work will thrive if you put harmonious personal contacts at the top of your list.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

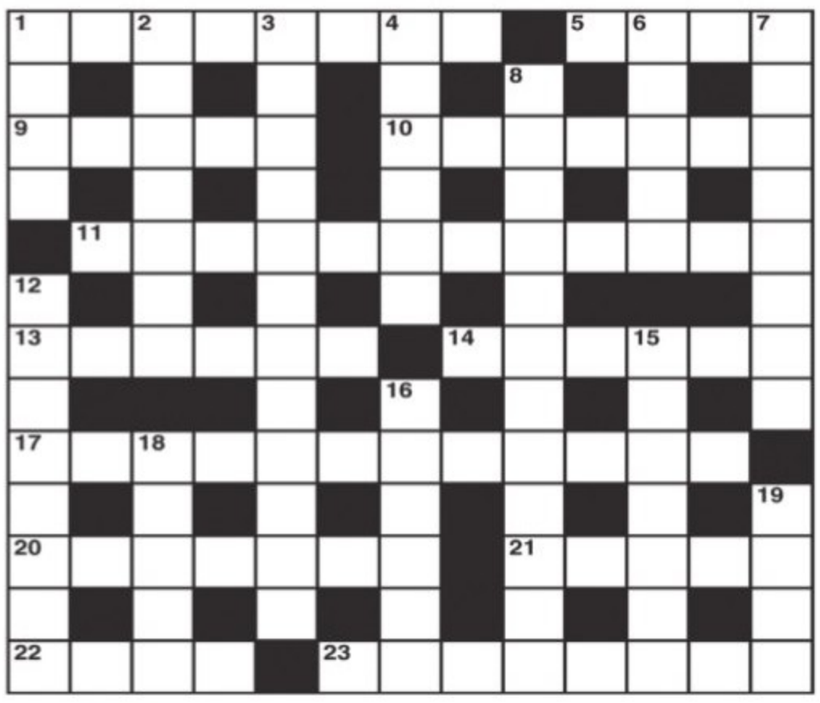
5		1	9					
	2						8	4
4				8		9		
		5	3	9		8		
	3						1	
		8		1	5	6		
		6		5				8
3	1						9	
					7	4		2

9	7	5	2	6	8	3	4	1
4	1	6	3	9	5	8	7	2
8	3	2	4	7	1	6	5	9
2	6	1	9	4	3	7	8	5
3	8	9	7	5	2	4	1	6
7	5	4	8	1	6	2	9	3
6	9	3	1	8	7	5	2	4
1	2	8	5	3	4	9	6	7
5	4	7	6	2	9	1	3	8

SUDOKU MEDIUM

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Phoney admission of poverty takes in a good man (8)
5 Friends back strike (4)
9 Describing a boom in the travel industry (5)
10 Support for a poor settler (7)
11 Their job is to keep down correspondence (12)
13 Owns permits (6)
14 Leader of a press gang (6)
17 Successor clearly seen (4,8)
20 Sweet courses prepared (7)
21 This sort of room calls for ample space (5)
22 They enable backward-looking people to progress (4)
23 Unusual tint seen in conscious condition (8)

DOWN
1 Cut down this month in a way (4)
2 A duck that comes to a pointed conclusion (7)
3 The arm kept up one's sleeve? (6,6)
4 Capital piece of terracotta wanted (6)
6 Locking device made in nickel at Charleston (5)
7 Compelling influence of cunning rep's ruse (8)
8 Wager about more fractious hands causing confusion (12)
12 Scotsman going to his doctor is just showing off (8)
15 Decimal base equal to being rationally defensible (7)
16 Field a ball perhaps (6)
18 Imprisoned dog to suffer (5)
19 A heavy blow during the midshipman's watch (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Parallels, 8 Tutor, 9 Comment, 10 Eponym, 11 Dearth, 12 Elephant, 15 Martinet, 18 Income, 20 Tallow, 21 Failure, 22 Sense, 23 Dependant.

Down: 2 Arose, 3 Admire, 4 Luncheon, 5 Stop up, 6 Etonian, 7 Brimstone, 11 Dramatist, 13 Estimate, 14 Ireland, 16 Ironed, 17 Scaled, 19 Moron.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

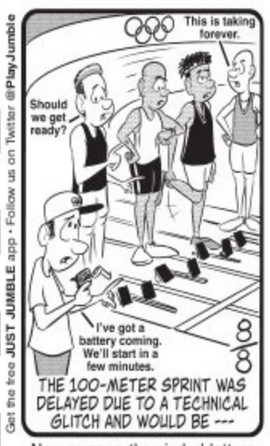
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TNNHI

ENVTE

SBDARU

GRACIL


This is taking forever.
Should we get ready?
I've got a battery coming. We'll start in a few minutes.
THE 100-METER SPRINT WAS DELAYED DUE TO A TECHNICAL GLITCH AND WOULD BE ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PINCH RURAL MUDDLE PLACID
Answer: The winners of the Olympic track competitions were all members of the — HUMAN RACE

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS | BENGALURU

03 BENGALURU | THURSDAY 03.10.2024 | newindianexpress.com

The Kodagu police nabbed seven accused in the international drug racket and have seized 3.31 kg of hydroponic marijuana worth Rs 3 crore. The accused are said to be from Kerala and Kodagu district, and were involved in the racket. Police are on a lookout for one more main accused in the case. SP K Ramarajan confirmed that the police received a tip-off on drug peddling, and a check-post was established near Madikeri to unearth the racket

IO converted accused officials into witnesses: Spl court

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

THE investigation officer (IO) of the Anti-Corruption Bureau -- now Karnataka Lokayukta, probing corruption charges in the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) is found to have converted the accused officials into witnesses in the chargesheet, though lakhs of rupees was found in their custody.

"The IO has cleverly ignored the allegations of corrupt activities faced by the KIADB officials and the huge amount found unofficially in their possession. In other words, his efforts to protect the KIADB officials stand substantiated by his acts of giving a clean chit to them and declining to collect the crime-related evidence. After giving the clean chit to the corrupt officials of the KIADB, the IO has for the namesake chargesheeted only the private persons in respect of offences punishable under Section 420 of the IPC and Section 7(A) of the Prevention of Corruption Act," said Judge KM Radhakrishna, acquitting eight private persons.

The judge said KIADB is known for corruption. The general public, particularly farmers who lose their lands and approach for compensation, are becoming real victims of officials. "I think this is the right time for the concerned to take necessary and stringent action against the erring officials to put an end to the anarchy that prevailed and render true service to the needy people," the judge said, while marking the copy of the judgment to the KIADB CEO for necessary action.

During the ACB raid on 2019, SLAO-2 Poornima was found with Rs 3.50 lakh, Assistant Secretary J Ravindra Rs 10,100, SLAO-2 (PW4) Rs 3,000, FDA Prakash P Rs 5,410, Superintendent V Shivaramaiah Rs 4,000, SLAO-1's Assistant Madhuchandra Rs 6,200, contract employee Janardhan Rao Rs 11,000, Senior Assistant Geetha

KIADB CASE

Rs 7,900, Office Superintendent Sanjeeva Yallappa Uppar Rs 5,410 and Senior Assistant L Srinivasa Rs 67,420.

But the chargesheet filed by IO C Balakrishna disclosed nothing against the KIADB officials. The IO also did not indicate them as accused, though over Rs 6 lakh unofficial cash, which was not declared in the cash declaration register, was found in their possession, the judge said.

The judge, finding it to be a shoddy probe and seeking an explanation from the IO, issued a show-cause notice to him as to why disciplinary action should not be recommended against him for serious lapses in the investigation.

The judge marked a copy of the judgment to the Lokayukta for information and to the head of the Lokayukta police wing to sensitise officers under him.

The court acquitted Siddagangappa, Siddarangappa M, Renukeshwara YS, Devaraju KH, Naveen Kumar N, Jagadeesh M, Sameer Pasha and Keshava, who acted as middlemen to get the compensation from KIADB to farmers for commission. The accused, in collusion with KIADB officers, approached farmers in Nelamangala taluk who were waiting for compensation against the acquisition of their land. Assuring the farmers that they would get the compensation released soon for a commission, the accused took signed blank cheques and other documents, including the agreements, from the farmers as a security towards the commission amount. They later took commission from various farmers, falsely claiming that the compensation was paid because of their efforts.

Man kills self after actress forces him to marry her

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 24-year-old man killed himself after his girlfriend, a Kannada TV serial actress, allegedly forced him to marry her. The victim took the extreme step at the actress' house in CK Palya Layout on Tuesday night. The Hulimavu police have registered a case.

The deceased has been identified as Madan, a resident of Konanakunte who was working with an event management company.

The police stated that around 8.30 pm on Tuesday, Madan hanged himself from the ceiling fan using a saree at his girlfriend Veena's house in CK Palya. Veena had reportedly been pressuring Madan to marry her and was allegedly harassing him. On Tuesday evening, the couple had a party, and an argument ensued between them, following which Madan took the extreme step.

After an alert, the police rushed to the spot and sent the body for a postmortem. No suicide note was found, and the police are investigating the case to ascertain if there was any foul play behind the death. Madan's mother filed a complaint, suspecting foul play behind her son's death. Further investigations are on.

HELPLINE:

If you are having suicidal thoughts, or are worried about a friend or need emotional support, someone is always there to listen. Call Sneha Foundation - 04424640050, Tele Manas - 14416 (available 24x7) or Call, the Tata Institute of Social Sciences' helpline - 02225521111, which is available Monday to Saturday from 8 am to 10 pm.

Experts: Stabbing in BMTC bus act of frustration by jobless man

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 25-year-old youth from Jharkhand, who lost his job a few days ago, allegedly stabbed a BMTC bus conductor on Tuesday for asking him not to stand on the footboard.

After the incident, he reportedly started shouting that he would prefer to stay in jail as nobody is giving him a job.

Experts said **Harsh Sinha**, the accused, might have committed the act out of frustration. Whitefield police have arrested Sinha and filed an attempt to murder case against him.

Sinha, a BCom graduate, worked with a Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) firm and lived in Hope Farm. He was sacked from his job 20 days ago, and he has been looking for a new job since then.

The incident happened near Vydehi Circle around 5.50 pm in the BMTC bus (route No 500 ITPL-Banashankari).

Sinha, who stood near the footboard, caused inconvenience to passengers getting into the bus. Conductor Yogesh, 45, who noticed this, asked Sinha to go inside the bus. Enraged by this, Sinha pulled out a knife from his backpack and stabbed the conductor. Sinha then threatened other passengers that he would stab them too if they tried to catch him. Seeing his violent behaviour, everybody in the crowded bus started screaming. As the doors were open, passengers, including the injured conductor, hurriedly got out.

However, driver Siddalingaswamy locked both the doors of the bus before Sinha could get out. The CCTV footage from the bus shows Sinha stabbing the conductor and threatening other passengers.

The conductor, who was stabbed in the abdomen, was rushed to a private hospital. He is out of danger.

"Sinha not only carried a knife, but also a hammer. The BMTC bus (KA 57 F 0015) of the 13th depot has been seized," a police officer said.

"Sinha has been arrested for attempting to murder. He has been booked under Section 109 of BNS (attempt to murder) and sent to judicial custody. The act of the accused is without any provocation," Shivakumar, DCP (Whitefield), told TNIE.

Sinha has been arrested for attempting to murder. He has been booked under Section 109 of BNS (attempt to murder) and sent to judicial custody. The act of the accused is without any provocation

Shivakumar, DCP (Whitefield)

EXTREME REACTIONS!

Dr Sunil, director and facilitator, Cadabams Hospitals, said, "In this case, the individual's frustration over being unemployed and unfulfilled desires could have led to the incident. These are what we call triggers. Unless there are mental health issues, extreme reactions are rare. No matter how short-tempered an individual may be, it is difficult to imagine that he would resort to physically attacking someone," Dr Sunil said. "The individual may have underlying psychiatric problems that are unrecognised or untreated, and may also be under the influence of substances such as marijuana and alcohol. When under the influence of such substances, individuals may resort to extreme behaviour," Dr Sunil said.

WILL TAKE STEPS TO SAFEGUARD DRIVERS, CONDUCTORS: BMTC MD

Bengaluru: After the stabbing incident, Kannada activists protested in front of Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation head office, urging BMTC MD Ramachandran to visit victim conductor Yogesh, who was attacked. Heeding to their demands, MD Ramachandran on Wednesday visited Yogesh, who is being treated at a private hospital, and consoled his family members. He assured them that the entire medical expense will be borne by the corporation. Kannada activists, led by Roopesh Rajanna, demanded that such incidents should not repeat. In reply, Ramachandran said measures will be taken to ensure the safety of all BMTC staff, drivers and conductors and such incidents will not be allowed again. "We are with BMTC employees. The police have registered a case against the attacker and we will ensure justice to our employee. We will take steps to ensure the safety of our employees," Ramachandran said.

HEAVENS OPEN UP

City witnessed heavy rain on Wednesday evening spoiling the holiday plans of many | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

EXPRESS READ

Realtor fires 6 rounds in air at friend's birthday party, arrested

Bengaluru: A 59-year-old realtor has been arrested for firing six rounds in air from his licensed revolver. The accused misused the gun license condition at his friend's birthday party celebration at a scrap yard on Bannerghatta Road. A friend of the accused who had recorded it on his mobile phone had posted the video on his Instagram account. The social media wing of the Bengaluru City Police who came across the video reported the matter to senior officers of Central Crime Branch (CCB). R Srinivas Gowda, DCP (CCB-2) directed KS Devendrappa, Inspector, Organised Crime Wing (West) to look into the issue. The inspector, after registering a suo moto case arrested the realtor who is from Bommanahalli. The CCB officials who have seized his revolver have recommended cancellation of the gun license. The realtor identified as **S Syed Althaf Ahmed**, was arrested on Monday. The CCB police have registered a case under the Indian Arms Act 1959 against the realtor.

36-year-old auto driver flashes, held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A 36-year-old autorickshaw driver was arrested by the Magadi Road police, after he allegedly flashed in front of a woman, while she was heading home.

The accused, Ashok Kumar, is a resident of Malleswaram . The police said the the incident occurred on September 18 afternoon when the woman, a beautician, was walking home. Ashok followed her near Rajajinagar 6th Block, stopped the vehicle and allegedly flashed. Based the woman's complaint, the police traced the accused by going through CCTV footage and arrested him on Tuesday.

In another incident, a 24-year-old woman was allegedly harassed by an auto driver near Silk Board after they quarrelled over the fare, early on Sunday morning.

The victim, Neha (name changed), told TNIE that she was travelling from Chennai and got down at Silk Board. As no cab arrived, an auto driver approached her and offered to drop her for the same price of Rs 270, but he asked her to go in another auto.

But as they travelled from BTM to Bannerghatta Road, the victim noticed the meter, which showed the fare of Rs 340 for about 5-6 km travelled. She immediately asked the driver to stop. His tone suddenly changed, and he started threatening her. Efforts are on to arrest the accused auto driver.

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Mysuru-Kodagu MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, while leading a cleanliness drive as part of the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations in Mysuru, called for the immediate resignation of CM Siddaramaiah in connection with the MUDA row. He said that the return of sites raised suspicion of misconduct. "This scandal has tarnished the CM's reputation, and stepping down is crucial for an unbiased inquiry," he said

Siddaramaiah failed to deliver an honest administration, says MP Karjol

MUDA commissioner acted unlawfully by accepting the return of plots: HDK

Byrathi Suresh says there's no black mark on CM's 4-decade-long career

COURT OF CONSCIENCE IS ABOVE ALL COURTS: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

COURT of conscience is above all courts and people should be true to their conscience, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who is facing the biggest challenge of his political career in the ongoing MUDA crisis, has said. Lokayukta police are investigating the MUDA case and the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has registered a case against him.

Speaking at a Gandhi Jayanti programme in Bengaluru, Siddaramaiah quoted Mahatma Gandhi's statement that the court of conscience is above all courts and people must act according to their conscience. "We all should be true to our conscience and that is the true respect we show to Mahatma Gandhi," the chief minister said, and added that all may not get justice in courts, but they must act according to their conscience. Siddaramaiah said irrespective of others' appreciation or criticism, one should always be true to their conscience.

He said that Mahatma Gandhi and Dr BR Ambedker's aspirations cannot be fulfilled merely by speeches and the government needs to propagate their values and messages among the public. They also need to implement programmes to create an equal and equitable society, the CM said. "Our government is working in this direction," he told the gathering.

... but morality is bigger than conscience: Somanna

Union Minister V Somanna said morality is bigger than conscience and CM Siddaramaiah must immediately resign from his post. "I do not know if he spoke about conscience and have a lot of respect for him. No one is bigger than the law. He should resign now and we have no problem if he comes back as CM after getting clean chit. For all of us, morality is bigger than conscience," the Union Minister said responding to the CM's remarks.

Former Deputy CM and BJP MP Govind Karjol said Siddaramaiah has failed to deliver an honest administration. If he is honest, Siddaramaiah should have resigned immediately after allegations were made but he is holding on to power, the BJP leader said. Siddaramaiah's conduct also made people suspect politicians and officials, he added.

We all should be true to our conscience and that is the true respect we show to Mahatma Gandhi, said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at an event in the Department of Infromation office in Bengaluru on Wednesday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Decision to return MUDA sites CM's wife's alone: Byrathi Suresh

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Kolar

THE decision to return MUDA sites, allotted to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife Parvathy BM, was her own as the 14 plots that have triggered a raging controversy were in her name, said CM's close confidant and Kolar district in-charge minister Byrathi Suresh, here on Wednesday.

The matter is now before the court and there has been no direction from any authority for Siddaramaiah to resign. He will continue as CM, Suresh said. There has been no black mark on the chief minister's four-decade career. Siddaramaiah will come out clean as he is not involved in the MUDA site allotment irregularities, he added.

On Union Minister for Steel Kumaraswamy's tit-for-tat for Siddaramaiah terming him a hit-and-run politician, and asking whether the CM should be called a U-turn politician after the MUDA sites were returned, Suresh said the two statements are unrelated. Kumaraswamy is making baseless allegations, he charged.

He said BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal's remark of a conspiracy to unseat Siddaramaiah as chief minister by BJP and JDS should be investigated.

On two sections of workers from the Kolar District Congress Committee getting into a fight during a meeting last week, Suresh said he was out of town when the incident occurred, and he has gathered all the information. There were differences over choosing a candidate for the recently held Lok Sabha elections. A meeting will be held soon to resolve issues, he added.

Parvathy's decision to return sites violates judicial orders: HDK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

UNION Minister **HD Kumaraswamy** on Wednesday raised serious allegations against CM Siddaramaiah, accusing him of attempting to tamper with evidence and orchestrating a cover-up in the MUDA scam investigation. Kumaraswamy called for the immediate arrest of the MUDA commissioner, alleging that he violated court orders by accepting the return of 14 plots by CM's wife Parvathy BM, but did not say how it constituted an offence.

During the JDS' Gandhi Jayanti celebrations, he said Siddaramaiah, Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh, Lokayukta officials and MUDA officials are hatching a conspiracy to obscure truth and evade accountability. On Parvathy returning the sites, he said it violated judicial orders and amounted to contempt of court. The MUDA commissioner acted unlawfully by accepting the return of plots and should be held accountable for exceeding his legal authority, he added.

Congress leader and former MLC Ramesh Babu dismissed the allegations as baseless and politically motivated. "The Karnataka High Court has already ruled that the chief minister's wife is not a party to the case, and the return of the plots was a personal decision. The judicial process is still on, and all parties have the opportunity to present their views," he said. He said Kumaraswamy himself had applied for an alternative industrial plot from MUDA, in violation of rules, and is yet to provide a reasonable response to the accusations. He questioned Kumaraswamy's credibility, particularly when he returned a plot in the Vishwabharathi Housing Society in Bengaluru.

He said, "It seems the BJP government at the Centre appointed Kumaraswamy as a minister to intimidate government officials, but his actions are now tarnishing both his ministerial role and the NDA-BJP government itself."

PETITION IN COURT TO PREVENT SALE OF ALREADY ALLOTTED MUDA SITES

MYSURU: A petition has been filed in the Mysuru Principal Civil and JMFC Court, seeking an injunction to prevent the sale of sites already allotted under the Mysuru Urban Development Authority 50:50 scheme. The plea, filed by advocate S Arun Kumar, requests the court to halt any transactions involving layouts, incentive sites, and those allotted during the tenure of MUDA Commissioner Dinesh Kumar, pending investigation. Addressing a press meet here on Wednesday, Arun said this is done to prevent the sale of these sites to third parties until the ongoing investigation is complete. Arun highlighted the potential for fraud, where beneficiaries of the 50:50 site allocation scheme could transfer ownership to unsuspecting buyers. "Without a restriction on site transfers, there is a risk that innocent individuals could unknowingly become embroiled in legal issues. To prevent such incidents, the court has been asked to impose a ban on any sales or transfers of 50:50 ratio sites until the probe concludes," he added.

CM Siddaramaiah and DyCM DK Shivakumar take a pledge as part of Gandhi Jayanti celebrations at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Ashoka bought BDA land illegally, returned after plaint: Ministers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

SENIOR Ministers in the Siddaramaiah cabinet on Wednesday accused Leader of Opposition in the Assembly and senior BJP leader R Ashoka of illegally purchasing Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) land and returning it after a case was filed with the Lokayukta.

Hitting out at the BJP leaders for terming Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife's decision to return the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) sites as an admission of guilt, the ministers asked if Karnataka BJP president BY Vijayendra would seek resignation from Ashoka, former chief minister BS Yediyurappa, and BJP MP and former chief minister Jagadish Shettar for their alleged involvement in the illegal land deal.

Karnataka Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara said Ashoka had returned the land after a case was filed. Dr Parameshwara was addressing a joint press conference with ministers HK Patil, Satish Jarkiholi, and Krishna Byre Gowda.

Dr Parameshwara said the BDA had notified 32 guntas of land in Lottegollahalli and a final notification was issued in 1978. However, in 2003 and 2007, Ashoka purchased the land that was in the BDA possession, from family members of its earlier owners by an absolute sale deed, he said. In 2009, based on an application from one Ramaswamy, it was denotified by then CM BS Yediyurappa, the Home Minister said. After a retired Wing Commander had filed a petition in the Lokayukta court, Ashoka returned it to BDA on August 27, 2011, through a registered gift, he said.

In the gift deed, Ashoka had claimed that it he was a true and lawful owner. However, when the issue went to the High Court, the court stated that the land in question was secured with the BDA, and no purpose would be served by continuing with the petition any further.

"He had committed irregularities at every step. Now, they are asking for CM's resignation and the ED is also used. Let Ashoka resign and ask for the CM's resignation," Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said. He termed the ED as "BJP's witch-hunting dogs."

BJP SLAMS SIDDARAMAIAH FOR 'INSULTING' NATIONAL FLAG

BENGALURU: The Opposition Bharatiya Janata Party on Wednesday accused Chief Minister Siddaramaiah of insulting the National Flag. Sharing a video — in which a Congress worker, holding the National Flag, was removing the chief minister's shoe when he arrived to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi — on his social media, state BJP president BY Vijayendra said it is an insult to the National Flag. The CM and Congress party should apologise to the people of the country, he said. ENS

He had committed irregularities at every step. Now, they are asking for CM's resignation and the ED is also used. Let Ashoka resign and ask for the CM's resignation
— Krishna Byre Gowda, Revenue Minister

Accused acquitted due to worst probes by Lokayukta officers: Court

YATHIRAJU @Bengaluru

THE Special Court for Lokayukta made serious observations that it has come across worst investigations in several cases, resulting in the acquittal of accused because the police officers of the anti-corruption watchdog are bold enough to file 'B' (closure) reports in trap cases, giving a go-bye to the main accused and influential officers.

The court said the Lokayukta police officers are ignoring the direct allegations and involvement of accused officials. They are deliberately obtaining the prosecution sanction orders from the authorities, who are not competent to do that, to help the accused officers and chargesheeting subordinate officials for namesake.

The scathing remarks were made by Judge KM Radhakrishna, who is dealing with cases registered under the Prevention of Corruption Act. His observations come at a time when questions are being raised over the credibility and propriety of the Lokayukta police, who are entrusted with the investigation into the MUDA site allotment case, allegedly involving Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his wife Parvathy BM and others.

"I am to express that, deputing or posting of well-trained, honest and competent police officers, particularly to the Lokayukta police wing, Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing illegal mining, Central Crime Branch (CCB) and the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) is a matter of absolute necessity to ensure effective investigations and subject the real culprits to justice. Otherwise, mere registrations of hundreds of cases for different offences for statistics purposes would not serve the real purpose. I mean to say that such cases result in injustice rather than ensuring justice to the society at large," Judge Radhakrishna said.

The observations were made by the judge, while acquitting the accused in a corruption case related to the Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) due to shoddy investigation by the investigation officer attached to the Lokayukta.

ALL EYES ON MYSURU

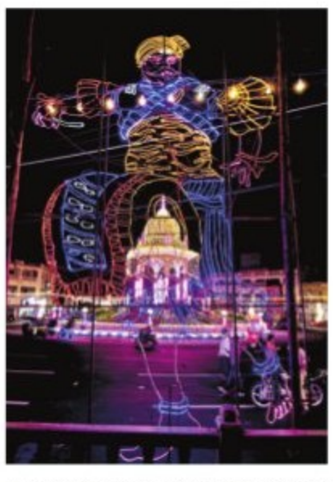
Nada Habba Dasara from today, writer Hampana to launch festivities

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mysuru

THE cultural city of Mysuru is decked up for the 10-day world-famous Dasara festivities which will be inaugurated atop the Chamundi Hills on Thursday (October 3). The State Government had opted for low-key celebrations last year owing to severe drought. However, things have changed for good this year with the government announcing grand festivities after bountiful rains filled reservoirs across the state.

The State Government has set aside ₹40 crore for the celebrations apart from sponsorships from corporates.

Noted writer and scholar Hampa Nagarajaiah will inaugurate the festivities in the Vrischika Lagna between 9.15am and 9.45am by offering floral tributes to Goddess Chamundeshwari atop the Chamundi Hills. He will be accompanied by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, Mysuru district minister Dr H C Mahadevappa, Endowment Minister Ramalinga Reddy and others.



All major circles and the Amba Vilas Palace in Mysuru are illuminated for Dasara; (right) Head priest of Chamundeshwari Temple, Shashishekhar Dixit, decorates the idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari on the eve of the inauguration of the festival, in Mysuru on Wednesday | UDAYASHANKAR S

Cultural programmes in over ten venues, including Dasara music festival in front of the illuminated Mysuru Palace, will be held over the next days. Other events include Dasara film festival, food mela, flower show, Dasara wrestling competition, Dasara sports, book festival, Navarathri Janapada Rangotsava and Dasara exhibition. For the first time, musical maestros Ilayaraja and AR Rahman will perform at the Yuva Dasara this year.

All eyes are on the Private Durbar at the palace with scion of Mysuru royal family Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar ascending the gem-studded golden throne and carrying out the traditional pujas. This will be the first private durbar for Yaduveer after becoming MP.

The festival will conclude with the grand jamboo savari on Vijayadashami day.

EXPRESS READ

Raju Poojary is Cong MLC bypoll candidate

UDUPI: The Congress on Wednesday named 68-year-old **Raju Poojary**, a former president of Udupi ZP, as its candidate for the October 21 bypoll to the Council from the Dakshina Kannada Local Authorities' constituency. A B.Com graduate, he is known for his proximity to party workers from Byndoor in Udupi. "I have been with NSUI, served at ZP, and worked at various levels, including the taluk and gram panchayats. Given my seniority, I requested a ticket, and the party gave me," Poojary said. BJP on Tuesday named Kishore Kumar Puttur as its candidate. This election will fill the seat vacated by Kota Srinivas Poojary, who resigned after being elected as MP from Udupi-Chikkamagaluru. ENS

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	Rfx No- 7000033612
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	Estimated Cost: - Rs 1,59,23,18,273/-
	Only (Including GST & Labour cess)
	EMD- Rs. 1,59,23,182.73/-
	Tender Fees:- Rs 25,000/- (Including GST)
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JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE FOR CHANGE IN SHAREHOLDING

As per Paragraph 42.3 Master Direction - Reserve Bank of India (Non-Banking Financial Company - Scale Based Regulation) Directions, 2023 dated October 19, 2023, amended from time to time (SBR Master Direction).

Finnable Credit Private Limited **(the "Company")** is a private limited company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, and registered with Reserve Bank of India **("RBI")** under Section 45-IA of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, as Non-Deposit taking Base Layer Non-Banking Financial Company by virtue of certificate of registration (bearing reference No. N-02.00291 dated December 29, 2017). The Company's registered office is located at IndiQube Lakeside, 4th Floor Municipal No. 80/2 Wing A Bellandur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru 560103, Karnataka, India.

In order to expand its capital base and considering the necessity of new long term capital, the Company proposes to issue Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares (CCPS) to:

a. Matrix Partners India Investments IV, LLC (Matrix IV), a Limited Liability Company formed under the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act, having its office address at 11555 Heron Bay Blvd, Suite 200, Coral Springs, FL 33076;
b. Matrix Partners India Investments IV-A, LLC (Matrix IV-A), a Limited Liability Company formed under the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act, having its office address at 11555 Heron Bay Blvd, Suite 200, Coral Springs, FL 33076;
c. Matrix Partners India IV AIF (Matrix AIF), a Category-II Alternative Investment Fund registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India; and
d. TVS Shriram Growth Fund 3 (TSGF3), a scheme of TVS Shriram Growth AIF Trust which is registered as a Category-II Alternative Investment Fund with the Securities and Exchange Board of India

Further, Mr. Vishal Shah and Ms. Nita Tyagi, existing shareholders of the Company, propose to transfer equity shares to Matrix IV, Matrix IV-A, Matrix AIF and TSGF3.

In view of the above, the Company had sought prior approval of the RBI pursuant to SBR Master Direction for change in shareholding of more than 26% on a fully diluted basis by the proposed shareholders i.e. Matrix IV, Matrix IV-A, Matrix AIF and TSGF3. In this regard, the RBI has granted approval to the Company for change in the shareholding vide its letter bearing reference BLR.DOR.RSG. No.S5/40-01-241/2024-2025 dated September 26, 2024.

The Company is registered as a non-deposit taking non-banking financial company and does not propose to accept public deposits either before or after change in shareholding of the Company. There are no public deposits outstanding as on the date of this notice.

This joint public notice is intended to provide notice to the public regarding the proposed changes in the shareholding as a result of the aforementioned proposed transaction. Any clarifications and/ or objections in this regard may be addressed to the Company at its registered office mentioned above within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice with a copy marked to its **CEO & Director, Mr. Nitin Gupta** at **finance@finnable.com**

Issued By:

Sd/- Nitin Gupta, Director
Finnable Credit Private Limited
Sd/-Matrix Partners India Investments IV, LLC
Sd/- Matrix Partners India Investments IV-A, LLC
Sd/- Matrix Partners India IV AIF
Sd/- TVS Shriram Growth Fund 3
Sd/- Mr. Vishal Shah
Sd/- Ms. Nita Tyagi

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 02/10/2024

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भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

ई–निविदा सूचना सं. / e- Tender Notice No :- PT-E-24-016, PT-E-24-017,PT-E-24-018 तिथि/ Date. 30.09.2024

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, **1. "एसडीएससी शार के एसएमपी ईटीएफ में वीसीबी तथा गैस विद्युत रोधित आरएमयू पैनल कीएसआईटीसी"** (अनुमानित लागत: ₹21.60 लाख); **2. "एसडीएससी शार के एसएमपी ईटीएफ में भू–संपर्कन प्रदान करना तथा 500kVA। ट्रांस्फार्मर की एसआईटीसी"** (अनुमानित लागत: ₹24.26 लाख); **3. "एसडीएससी शार के एसएमपी व ईटीएफ में मूल अग्निशमन केंद्र से 6 सी जंक्शन तक सड़क पर प्रकाश उपलब्ध करना"** (अनुमानितलागत: ₹23.70 लाख) के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज **16.10.2024** को **14:30** बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट **www.isro.gov.in** या **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** पर जा सकते हैं।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **1. "SITC of VCB and Gas Insulated RMU panel in SMP ETF at SDSC SHAR"** (Estimated cost: ₹21.60 Lakhs); **2. "SITC of 500kVA Transformer & Providing earthingin SMP ETF at SDSC SHAR"** (Estimated cost: ₹24.26 Lakhs); **3. "Providing of street light illumination from Base Fire Station to 6C Junction, SMP-ETF, SDSC SHAR"** (Estimated cost: ₹23.70 Lakhs). Tender documents can be downloaded up to **16.10.2024, 14:30** hrs. Interested tenderers may visit **www.isro.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO** for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD	Tender Fees
7000033754	T- 38 / 2024-25	Work of Replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of 132kV Khadka - Juniper Solar (Tighre) Line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone	1784.97 Lakhs (Including GST)	Rs. 17,84,973.27/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 01.10.2024 to 15.10.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 15.10.2024 up to 13:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 16.10.2024 at 11:00Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253-2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000. For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/81 -2024-25

MAHATRANSCO

The due Date and Time of submission and opening of following SRM e-tender is extended as follows:

Tender No. & Description of Material	Estimated Amount (in Rs.) Lakhs Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Due Date & Time (Hrs.) for Submission & Opening of Tender
SP/T-0524/0924 [RFX No. 5000001305] [3rd Call] (Two Bid System) Procurement of 3x500MVA, 765/400/33kV, 1- ICT along with Virgin High Grade Inhibited Insulating Oil conforming to IEC 60296 for 765kV R.S. Ektuni under Augmentation Scheme at Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar Zone 1st Call : SP/T-0511/0724 (RFx 5000001232) 2nd Call : SP/T-0519/0924 (RFx 5000001279)	Rs.6450.69 Rs. 25000.00 (excluding taxes)	11.10.2024 Up to 16:00 Hrs. 11.10.2024 at 16:15 Hrs
Pre-bid meeting Date, Time & Venue	**Date:** 01.10.2024 **Time:** 14:30 Hrs. **Venue:** 8th Floor, MSETCL C.O. 'Prakashganga' Plot No. C-19, E-Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East,Mumbai, Maharashtra 400051.	

Contact Person: Office of the Executive Engineer (P&C) Tel. No.022-69852717/
Cell No.8329909813

Email:ceom@mahatransco.in,secpa@mahatransco.in,eegrp5@mahatransco.in,eepc@mahatransco.in For further details visit our website **http://www.srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Any further amendments will be published on the MSETCL website www.mahatransco.in. So bidders are requested to check the website.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (P&C)

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that in the name of our Clients Sri. Sri. Shivanna S/o. late Ghattaiah, Madhushri, D/o. Sri.Shivanna, Kavya D/o. Sri. Shivanna, Likith S/o. Sri.Shivanna all R/at Doddamaranahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, a GPA had been executed dated 28-01-2019, registered as Document No.KEN-4-00038-2020-21 of Book-IV, Stored in CD No. KEND1075, registered on 29-06-2020, before Sr. Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar (Kengeri), Bengaluru, with respect to agricultural land measuring 0-36 Guntas comprised in Sy.No.9/7 of Doddamaranahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, which is the Schedule Property herein shown as authorizing Sri. Pradeep Krishnappa, S/o. Sri.M. Krishnappa, R/at No.2937/38E, Service Road, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560 040, to deal with the below described Schedule Property. Our clients have cancelled/revoked the said registered power of attorney dt. 28-01-2019 by issuing Notice Dt.20.09.2024 to the said attorney with immediate effect.

In view of the above cancellation, Sri.Pradeep Krishnappa, S/o. Sri. M. Krishnappa has no right and authority to deal with the Schedule Property in any manner and general public are hereby called upon not to enter into any transaction with the said person in respect of Schedule Property. In case if there is any transaction, the same shall not bind our clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of agricultural dry land in an extent of 0 Acre 36 Guntas comprised in Sy.No. 9/7 of Doddamaranahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, and bounded on the: **East by :** Sy.No. 9/5 & 9/6, **West by :** Sy.No. 9/10, **North by :** Lake and **South by :** Ajjanahalli Boundary.

Sri Ganesha .P & Associates, Advocate
At No.25, 1st Floor, Praveen Mansion,
5th Main, Opp. M.T.R. Hotel, Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru-560009. Mobile No.9980017788

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/T(W&M)/MYS/EE(E)(O)/AEE(C)/24-25/3325-30 Date:01.10.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP portal only)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites tender for the following civil work.

Bid Enquiry No: KPTCL/SEE/TCM/CIVIL/168 Dt:30.09.2024 for Construction of Shed for parking of Insulated Aerial work Platform Truck, Skyladder, Tools Transportation Tempo Traveler Vehicle and Store room for Hotline Tools for Mysuru Hotline Sub Division at 220kv Hootgally R/s Mysuru. **Est. Amt. (in Lakhs): 58.17**

The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or directly logging on to website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **03.10.2024** at **11:00 Hrs.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elec),
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL,
Prasarana Bhavana, N.R.Mohalla, Mysuru-570007.

SRM E-Tender Notice

MAHATRANSCO

Digitally signed online bids are invited through SRM E-tender process of MSETCL in two bid system from bidders who are registered Electrical Vendors/Contractors of MSETCL for following SRM E-tender;

RFx No.	E-Tender No.	Particulars	Estimated Cost	EMD	Tender Fees
7000033752	T- 36 / 2024-25	Work of replacement of existing 0.4 ACSR conductor along with hardwares by High Performance Conductor (HPC) of 220kV Malegaon-Shivajinagar line (Length= 113ckm) for RE power evacuation under Green Energy Corridor (GEC) under Nashik Zone	7726.78 Lakhs (Including GST)	Rs. 77,26,781.05 /-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST
7000033756	T- 40 / 2024-25	Work of Replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of 220kV Jamde -Dondaicha 1 & 2 Line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone	4955.44 Lakhs (Including GST)	Rs. 49,55,443.04/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST
7000033758	T- 42 / 2024-25	Work of Replacement of existing conductor with High Ampacity Conductor of 132kV Shivajinagar – Sakri – Dhule Line for RE power evacuation under Nashik Zone	3600.39 Lakhs (Including GST)	Rs. 36,00,395.09/-	Rs. 25,000/- + GST

Sale period: 01.10.2024 to 22.10.2024, **Last Date of Submission:** 22.10.2024 up to 13:00 Hrs, **Date of opening (Tech. bid):** 23.10.2024 at 11:00 Hrs (if possible). **Contact person:** Executive Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone, Nashik. Phone No. 0253-2403010/02/07 Fax No. 0253-2403000. For further details please visit to **https://srmetender.mahatransco.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, EHV PC (O&M), Zone, MSETCL, Nashik

QuoteExpress KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE STARS, AND YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND › THEODORE ROOSEVELT

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE,
4th Floor, BSNL Building,
Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore

O. A. No.1866/2023

Between : Canara Bank, Having its Office at No. 112, J. C. Road, Bangalore - 560 002, and one of its branch office at Jayanagar Shopping Complex Branch, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560 011, Represented by its Agent and Manager Smt. C. S. Sowmya, W/o. Sunil Kumar A. K. **...Applicant**

And

2. Mr. Sudharshan T. S., S/o. T. Sampath Kumar, Aged about 48 yeras, No. 1102, TATA Promont, Ittumadu Main, Hosakere halli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru - 560 085.

3. Mr. Gunashekar R, S/o. T. C. Raghu pathy, aged about 56 yeras, No. T4, 302, Saptagiri, TATA Promont, Ittumadu Main, Hosakere halli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru - 560 085.

....Defendant No. 2 & 3

SUMMONS /NOTICE ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

1. **Whereas**, the Applicant has instituted an Application U/S 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against you for the recovery of a sum of **Rs.25,27,910.41** (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred and Ten and Paisa Forty One Only) together with cost and future interest and other reliefs.

2. You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days of the service of the summons or on **19.12.2024** at **11.00 AM** in the forenoon in person or by a pleader / Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

3. Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned herein, before, the proceeding will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **10.09.2024.**

Order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Signature of the Officer
Authorised to issue Summons

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SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED

Expression of Interest

Ref: SCTL/TECH/3696/2024/J(IT)2/EOI-01
Date: 01.10.2024

Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited invites Expressions of Interest from Applicants for a web and mobile-based Project Management software to handle the entire lifecycle of the project from the Administrative sanction till the closure of the contract.
Date Extended
Last date of submission: 07.10.2024

For More Details contact: 0471 401 0374
Website: www.smartcitytvm.in

Sd/-, Chief Executive Officer
Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Ltd.

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, AT BENGALURU
BSNL Building, 4th Floor,
Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road,
Bangalore - 560 001

O.A. No.538/2021

Between: Bank of India, Kothanur Branch, No. 1 & 2 Indradhanush Layout, Gubbi Cross, Hennur Bagalur Road, Kothanur, Bangalore - 560 077 **...Applicant**

And

Sri Senthil Kumaragurubaran C and Anr. ...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendants :

M/s Samrudhi Reality Ltd., [A Company incroporated under the Provisions Act, 1956] Having its Regd. Office at: No. 1, 2nd Floor, Tate Lane, Richmond Road Cross, Bangalore - 560 025. Rep by its Authorised Signatory Mr. Yashodara.

Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.77,59,331.77** (Rupees Seventy Seven Lakhs Fifty Nine Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty One and Paise Seventy Seven Only) together with current and future interest and for other relief/s.

The above mentioned defendants required to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate, in support of their defense to show cause within 30 days or on **04.11.2024** at **10:30 AM** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **04.07.2024.**

By order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, **Mr. Sacha Greenwood,** is the lawful owner of the immovable property bearing Simplex Apartment No. 026, situated on the Ground Floor of the Eastern Wing, with a total super built-up area of 1200 square feet, located at Trinity Woods, Ambalipura Village, Sarjapur Main Road, Bengaluru. In the year 2011, the mother of my client, Mrs. Aparijitha, misplaced the Title Deeds of the aforementioned property, namely, the Original Registered Sale Deed dated 30-04-1999, registered as Document No. BNG(U)-BLR(S)/671/1999-2000. Mrs. Aparijitha lodged a complaint reporting the loss of the Title Deeds on 10-05-2011 at Whitefield Police Station, Bengaluru City.

Any individual or entity who may have found the aforementioned Original Sale Deed or who has any claim or interest in respect of the same, is hereby requested to either return the Original Sale Deed or file objections to the undersigned within fifteen (15) days from the date of this notice. In the absence of any such response or claim within the stipulated time, it shall be presumed that the said document is irretrievably lost, and my client shall proceed on the basis that no objections, claims, or interests whatsoever exist from any individual or entity concerning the aforementioned property.

Veeresha K. Advocate,
No.4/20, 1st B Main Road,1st N Block,
Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010.
Mobile:- 8088537897

QuoteExpress
WHEN YOU REACH THE END OF YOUR ROPE, TIE A KNOT IN IT AND HANG ON › FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client Mr. Ananda R S/o. Ramaiah, Residing at No. 133, Dodda Byalakere Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Bengaluru North, Bylakere-560089.

Our client has lost the Original Registered Sale Deed bearing Doc.No. HSR-1-02525/2008-09 date 13.02.2009 registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar Hesaraghatta, Bangalore in respect of the All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.8/6, Sy.No. 8/6, Property No. 150200200200620004, in all totally measuring 1011.71 sq meters, (10 guntas) Situated at Lingarajasagara Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on; **East by :** Sy.No. 8/7 Property, **West by :** Remaining portion of Sy.No. 8/2, **North by :** Sy.No. 8/3 Hanumantha's property, **South by :** Road.

The said property is in possession of Sri. Anand .R he is the absolute owner and is absolutely free from any encumbrance whatsoever.

My Client had lost the above mentioned Sale deed & Inspite of several efforts the Original Sale deed he has not found and he has lodged the police complaint through online dated 30.09.2024, Lost Report No. 1265299/2024.

If any person found or anyone having any claim or interest over the said property, he/she is requested to forward their claims along with the relevant documents to us within 07 days of this public notice. If we do not receive any claim from any person within 07 days, it will be strictly presumed that this property is absolutely free from any claim or encumbrance and no one has any claim over this property and if any One found the above deed kindly contact below mentioned.

PREMA B DUBAE, Advocate
FFD VI, 4th Floor, Sampoorna Chambers,
Vasavi Temple Road, V.V. Puram, Bengaluru-560004. 080-42053588 / 080-42296969

MAHATRANSCO
Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd.

SRM E-Tender Notice

MSETCL invites online bids (E Tender) from registered contractors / agencies on Mahatransco E-Tendering website http://srmetender.mahatransco.in; for following works.

Tender No :- CE/EHV PC O&M Zone/Pune/**T-12/2024-25 RFX No.** 7000033576

Subject :- E-Tender for Second Circuit Stringing on a) 132kV Mandrup-Karajgi, b) 132kV Akkalkot- Karajgi, c) 132kV Jeur-Parewadi, d) 220kV Lamboti- Vairag SCDC lines along with construction of associated end bays under EHV O&M Circle, Solapur under Pune Zone.

Tender Amount :- Rs 25,81,77,318.44/- **(With Tax) ;** Rs 21,87,94,337.66 /- **(W/O Tax) EMD :-** Rs.25,81,773.18 /- (1% of Estimated Cost);

Tender Fees :- Rs. 25,000 /- + Taxes extra.

Download of tender Documents :- From Dt. **01.10.2024 to Dt. 23.10.2024** up to 11:00 Hrs.

Bid Opening :- Dtd. 23.10.2024 after 12:00Hrs (Tech.); Dtd. 27.10.2024 after 12:00Hrs (Price)

For further details visit our website http://mahatransco.in and open above RFX for downloading tender document, schedules, and annexures.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, EHV PC O&M Zone Pune

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify that our clients **1. K. Kumar, 2. B.S.Kiran Kumar, 3. D.Venkataramana Raju, 4. S.N.Harish Narayan Gandhi, are in the process of purchasing schedule property from its Land Owners i.e., 1.Smt.T.A.Bharathi Devi, 2.S.V.Dharshan Kumar, 3.Smt.S.V.Sahana, 4.T.K.Rajeshwari, 5.T.K.Maha Lakshmi, 6.Kum.K.N.Vasavi, 7.T.A.Chandra Kumari, 8.Nagarjuna, 9.T.A.Srinivasa Murthy, 10.T.S.Gagan, 11.T.R.Suvarana Rani, 12.T.R.Naveen Kumar, 13.T.A.Sathyanarayana** and accordingly our clients have entered into 4 registered Agreement of Sale at Bengaluru dated 05/08/2022, 03/12/2022, 31/12/2022, 16/06/2023.

If any person/s who claims any right, title or interest in relation to schedule property or any objections of any nature should lodge such claim and objections through Phone or in writing to the under mentioned within **7 days** hereof, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY (Entire land as per the Final Decree)

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas**, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli, Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** bounded as follows:

East by: Land bearing remaining portion of sy.No.42, and Sy.No.44, Road and bordering of Shankrappa Setty's land **West by:** Land belongs to the old vendor LR's of M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.43 and Sy.NO.97 **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97 **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45

1. The Property measuring **19.75 guntas** allotted towards the share of the T.A.Sathyanarayana is as follows:

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas**, measuring 19.75 guntas is allotted out of 3 acres 18 guntas, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru bounded as follows:**

East by: Land belongs to LRs of T.A.Ramesh Babu (T.R.Suvarana Rani and T.R.Naveen Kumar), **West by:** Land belongs to the old vendor LR's of M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.43 and Sy.NO.97. **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97, **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45,

2. The Property measuring **19.75 guntas** allotted towards the share of the T.R.Suvarnarani and T.R.Naveen Kumar is as follows:

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas,** measuring **19.75 guntas** is allotted out of **3 acres 18 guntas**, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** bounded as follows:

East by: Land belongs to LRs of T.A.Sreenivas Murthy, **West by:** Land belongs to T.A.Sathyanarayana **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97 **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45

3. The Property measuring **19.75 guntas** allotted towards the share of the T.A.Sreenivasa Murthy is as follows:

SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas**, measuring **19.75 guntas** is allotted out of **3 acres 18 guntas**, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** bounded as follows:

East by: Land belongs to T.K.Rajeshwari **West by:** Land belongs to LRs of T.A.Ramesh Babu (T.R.Suvarana Rani and T.R.Naveen Kumar) **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97 **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45

4. The Property measuring **19.75 guntas** allotted towards the share of the T.K.Rajeshwari is as follows:

SCHEDULE 'D' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas**, measuring **19.75 guntas** is allotted out of **3 acres 18 guntas**, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** bounded as follows:

East by: Land belongs to T.A.Bharati Devi **West by:** Land belongs to LRs of T.A.Sreenivasa Murthy **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97 **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45

5. The Property measuring **19.75 guntas** allotted towards the share of the T.A.Bharathi Devi is as follows:

SCHEDULE 'E' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas,** measuring **19.75 guntas** is allotted out of **3 acres 18 guntas**, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** bounded as follows:

East by: Land belongs to Lrs of Dhanalakshmi (Vasavi) **West by:** Land belongs to T.K.Rajeshwari **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97, **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45

6. The Property measuring **19.75 guntas** allotted towards the share of the Vasavi is as follows:

SCHEDULE 'F' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas**, measuring **19.75 guntas** is allotted out of **3 acres 18 guntas**, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** bounded as follows:

East by: Land belongs to T.A.Chandra Kumari **West by:** Land belongs to T.A.Bharati Devi **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97 **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45

7. The Property measuring **19.75 guntas** allotted towards the share of the T.A.Chandra Kumari is as follows:

SCHEDULE 'G' PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property Old land bearing Sy.No.42, New Sy.No.42/1A, measuring total extent of **2 acres 21 guntas**, and another property Old land bearing Sy.No.44, New Sy.No.44 (*), measuring **0.37 Guntas**, both in total measuring **3 Acres 18 Guntas**, measuring **19.75 guntas** is allotted out of **3 acres 18 guntas**, situated at **Uttarahalli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** bounded as follows:

East by: Land bearing remaining portion of Sy.No.42 and Sy.No.44, road and bordering of Shankarppa Shetty's land **West by:** Land belongs to LRs of Dhanalakshmi (Vasavi) **North by:** Thoti Inamthi land Sy.No.105 and Sy.No.97 **South by:** Land belongs to Lrs of late M.N.Rama Rao and Sy.No.45

Manju H.M. Advocate
No.8, 1st Floor, Shanthi Islamia Complex
Near Ganapati Temple, Kaglipura, Kanakapura Main Road
Bengaluru-560116. Mobile : 8050039333, 9620336677

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar,
Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail ID:** crmd@cityunionbank.in,
Phone: 0435-2432322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.1,03,09,925/- (Rupees One Crore Three Lakh Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Five only)** as on **29-09-2024** together with further interest to be charged from **30-09-2024** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. Venkateshwara Table Bricks, Sy.No.11, Near Raghavendra Dhama, Belekere Silvepura Post, Hesarghatta Hobli, Bangalore - 560090. No.2) Mr. P. Prasanna Kumar, S/o. Mr. V. Prabhakar, No.131, "Chandra Kala Nilaya", 11th Main, Behind Kaivara Temple, Kammagondanahalli, Bangalore - 560015. No.3) Mr. V. Prabhakar, S/o. Mr. Veeraswamy, No.131, "Chandra Kala Nilaya", 11th Main, Behind Kaivara Temple, Kammagondanahalli, Bangalore - 560015.**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - B : (Property Owned by Mr. P. Prasanna Kumar, S/o. Mr. V. Prabhakar)

Survey Nos.7, 8 & 9, Site Bearing No.7. All that piece and parcel of Vacant Site Bearing No.7, formed in Survey Nos.7, 8 & 9 situated at Kammagondanahalli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now coming under the limits of BBMP Ward No.12, Bangalore, measuring:- East to West 53 feet, North to South Eastern side 40 feet, Western side 59 feet in all measuring 3,206.5 Sq.ft. and bounded off:- East by - Site No.8, West by - Site No.6, North by - Road, South by - Others Property. Situated at Kammagondanahatli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now coming under the limits of BBMP Bangalore.

Reserve Price : Rs.77,00,000/-
(Rupees Seventy Seven Lakh only)

Schedule - C : (Property Owned by Mr. P. Prasanna Kumar, S/o. Mr. V. Prabhakar)

Survey Nos.7, 8 & 9 of All that piece and parcel Southern Portion on the Western Side of House Property in Converted Survey Nos.7, 8 & 9 situated at Kammagondanahalli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now coming under the limits of BBMP Ward No.12, Bangalore measuring:- East to West - Northern side 53 feet, Southern side 50 feet, North to South 25 feet in all measuring 1,287.5 Sq.ft., bounded on:- East by - Passage & Property belonging to M. Shobha, West by - Others Property, North by - 6-0 feet wide passage South by - 5-0 feet wide passage. Situated at Kammagondanahatli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk now coming under the limits of BBMP Bangalore.

Reserve Price : Rs.29,00,000/-
(Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
22-10-2024	**City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Vijay Nagar Branch,** 23/1, 17th Cross, M.C. Layout, Near Maruthi Mandir, Vijay Nagar, Bengaluru Rural - 560040. Telephone No.080-23504001, Cell No.7483060906.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Vijay Nagar Branch, 23/1, 17th Cross, M C Layout, Near Maruthi Mandir, Vijay Nagar, Bengaluru Rural - 560040. (3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-23504001, Cell No.7483060906. (5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever- there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 01-10-2024 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.**0435-2402322, **Fax:** 0435-2431746, **Website:** www.cityunionbank.com

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	**1) Mrs. Tamilarasi, 2) Mr. Sakthivel M**	**Loan Account No. 31889610000258 34019170066518 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.65,000/-**	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the Residential Vacant Gramathana Southern Portion of Site No.03 formed in Old Katha No.49 and New Katha No.49/2, Situated at Mylappanahalli Village, Singanayakanahalli Village Panchayat, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk and **Bounded on the: East by:** Road, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Remaining Portion of the same site No.03, **South by:** Site No.02, Measuring East to West: 15 Feet and North to South: 45 Feet, Totally Measuring 675 Sq.feet.	**Date of NPA: 29-08-2024 Demand Notice Date: 30-09-2024**	**Rs.5,00,661.60** (Rupees Five Lakh Six Hundred Sixty One and Sixty Paisa Only) **due as on 23-09-2024**

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 03.10.2024, Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

HDFC BANK LIMITED

Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013
Branch: #51, HDFC House, Kasturba Road, Bangalore 560 001
Tel:-080-41183000 CIN L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **HDFC Bank Limited** (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) **(HDFC)** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to **HDFC,** within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below in their respective names, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective dates mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realization, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to **HDFC** by the said Borrower (s) respectively.

Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset/s.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative (s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Security Interest has been created
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(f)
1	**Mrs. Parvathamma** Wife of Mr. Karnati Srinivas (Borrower) [since deceased], **Mr. Karnati Linga Swamy,** Father of Mr. Karnati Srinivas (Borrower) [since deceased] **And other known and unknown Legal Heir(s)** of Mr. Karnati Srinivas (Borrower) [since deceased] **All are residing at :** Legal Heir(s), Legal Representative(s), Successors and Assiagns of **Mr. Karnati Srinivas,** No.299, Ganapa, 22nd Cross, 12th Main, Sector 7, HSR Layout, Bengaluru 560102. **Also at:** Flat No. 102, Moonrock Residency, Sriram Nagar Colony, Botanical Garden Road, Opp Chirec Public School, Kondapur, K V Rangareddy, Telangana 500084. **Also at:** Flat-C1404, Floor-14, Sipani Royal Heritage -W-C/Blk1-Phase 1, Iggaluru Village, Attibele, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru 562106.	**Loan Account No. (1) 659140059 Rs.26,51,974/- (2) 659140066 Rs.4,79,339/- Total Amount Rs.31,31,313/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakhs Thirty One Thousand Three Hundred and Thirteen Only) as on 31.08.2024**	**24.09.2024** .... **N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.06.2024**	**Schedule A Property:** **Item No.1:** All the piece and parcel of the converted property bearing Survey **No.78/2,** measuring 1 acre situated at Iggalur Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore South and bounded as follows: On the **East by :** Sri R Yellappa's land; On the **West by :** M. Yellappa S/o Mr. Patel Muniswamaiah; On the **North by :** Geetha property and On the **South by :** K N Surendra Reddy Property. **Item No.2:** All the piece and parcel of the converted property bearing Survey **No.78/3,** measuring 1 acre 23 guntas situated at Iggalur Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore South Taluk and bounded as follows: On the **East by :** Sri Nanjappa's property; On the **West by:** Gomala land of Ramakrishnapura; On the **North by:** Remaining land in same sy no. 78/3 & Marasur Jayamma's Property, On the **South by:** Marasur Border Naganayakanahalli. **Item No.3:** All the piece and parcel of the converted property bearing Survey **No.78/3,** measuring 2 acres 26 guntas situated at Marsur Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore South Taluk and bounded as follows: On the **East by:** Narayan Reddy S/o Motareddy & Yeradana halli Rudrachari property. On the **West by:** K N Suredra Reddy land, On the **North by :** Belur Venkattappa & Yeradana halli Rudrachari & Brhamachari property, On the **South by :** Ramachari's property. **Item No.4:** All the piece and parcel of the residential converted property bearing Survey **No.308** as per survey record Measuring 2 acres, 309/2 as per survey records Measuring 1 acre 5 guntas, and 311/1 (as per survey records 311/5 & 311/6 measuring I acre 13 guntas in all totally measuring **4 acres 18 guntas** all situated adjacent to each other forming a single block at Marsur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore South Taluk and bounded as follows: On the **East by :** Sai Prashanth Enclave, On the **West by :** Sy No. 311/4 & 312, On the **North by :** Iggalur village lands, On the **South by:** Sy No 310 & Sri T. Muniyappa's property. **Item No.5:** All the piece and parcel of the Residential site bearing **No. 7** katha no. 966 formed out in sy no. 308 Measuring 2720 sft East to west (35+33)/2 ft and North to South 80 ft situated in the layout formed in Sy No. 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 321/1, 326/1 at Marsur Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore South Taluk and bounded as follows: On the **East by :** Site No. 6; On the **West by :** Part of Sy No. 308; On the **North by:** Part of Sy 78/3, On the **South by :** Site No. 8. **Schedule B Property:** North Facing, Apartment **No.1404** on the **Fourteenth Floor of 'C' Wing, Block "1"** of the residential apartment complex known as **"SIPANI ROYAL HERITAGE PHASE-I"** constructed upon Schedule A Property having 54.93 square mtrs of carpet area or **591 Square feet** and **81.28 Square Mtrs** of super built-up area or 875 Square feet consisting of 2 bed rooms, hall, kitchen, balconies and toilets, along with proportionate **26.29 square mtrs (283 Sq Ft)** of undivided share, title and interest in the land comprised in Schedule A Property, with **One Covered Car Parking Space** at the Basement/Ground level and proportionate interest in the common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts staircases and other common facilities, bearing khata PID No. 5123/4616/213/C-1404 and bounded on: **East** : Open to Sky, **West** : Flat No. C 1405, **North** : Entrance Door & Corridor, **South** : Open to Sky.
2	**Mr. Manoj Murlidhar Borse (Borrower)** FL NO 8 BL 8B, Laxminarayan Nagar SN 11/12, Erandavana Vana Pune, Near Shamaprasad Udyan, A.R. Shala, Maharashtra, Pune 411004. **Also at: IBM India Private Limited** **Designation:** Project Manager **Department:** ITD GD GTS **Employee No:** 02388H Embassy Golf Link, Business Park, Off Indiranagar, Koramangala Ring Road, Koramangala, Bengaluru 560034 **Also at:** Flat No:501, H M Symphony - Accord & Concert, Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bengaluru 560034 **Mrs. Manisha Manoj Borse (Co-Borrower)** Wipro Technologies **Designation:** IT Professional **Department:** JDE **Employee No:** 201334 Survey No 69(P), Doddakannelli, Sarjapur Road, Carmelaram, Bengaluru 560035 **Also at:** Flat No C501, H M Symphony Apartment, Kasavanahalli Main Road, Sarjpur Road, Carmelaram, Bengaluru 560035.	**Loan Account No. 363769025 Rs.25,13,569/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakh Thirteen Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty Nine Only) as on 31.08.2024**	**23.09.2024** .... **N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.08.2024**	**Schedule A Property: Item No.1:** All that piece and portion of the immovable property being residentially converted land bearing Survey **No.86,** situated at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring an extent of 16 ½ (sixteen & half) Guntas and bounded on the: **East by :** Road, **West by :** Sy.No.85, **North by :** Remaining Portion of Sy.No.86, **South by :** Road formed by Kristal. **Item No.2:** All that piece and portion of the immovable property being residentially converted land bearing **Survey No.86,** situated at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring an extent of 13 (thirteen) Guntas and bounded on the: **East by :** Government Road, **West by :** Sy.No.85, **North by :** Remaining Portion of Sy .No.86, **South by :** Remaining Portion of Sy.No.86. **Item No.3:** All that piece and portion of the immovable property being residentially converted land bearing **Survey No.85,** situated at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring an extent of 21 (twenty one) Guntas and bounded on the: **East by :** Sy.No.86, **West by :** Land bearing Sy.No.84, **North by :** Remaining Portion of Sy.No.85, **South by :** Road formed by Kristal. **Item No.4:** All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being residentially converted land bearing Survey No.84, situated at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring an extent of 1 (one) Acre 31 (thirty one) Guntas and bounded on the: **East by :** Sy.No.85, **West by :** Sy.No.83, **North by :** Sy.No.22/l, **South by :** 30 ft Road formed by Krystal Group in the same Sy.No.83 **Item No.5:** All that piece and portion of the immovable property being residentially converted land bearing **Survey No.83,** situated at Kasavanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring an extent of 1 (one) Acre 29 (twenty nine) Guntas and bounded on the: **East by :** Sy.No.84, **West by :** Sy.No.82, **North by :** Sy.No.22/1, **South by :** 30ft Road formed by the Krystal Group The property falls under BBMP Limits bearing BBMP Khata No: 3186/2977/83, 84, 85 & 86, Kasavanahalli and 3187/2978/86. **Schedule B Property:** 0.312% undivided share, right, title and interest in Schedule A Property measuring about 609.68 sq.ft has been sold to the PURCHASERS by the VENDOR under this deed of absolute sale and conveyance. **Schedule C Property:** Residential Apartment bearing **No.501** in Fifth Floor in Concert Block, measuring about **1717.07 sq.ft** of super built up area containing Three Bed Rooms together with proportionate share in common area such as passage, lobbies, staircase comprised in the building complex constructed on the Schedule A Property known as **"H.M.SYMPHONY"** along with one Covered Car Parking area. (The said Apartment has RCC Roofing, Vitrified Flooring, Honne Flush Doors and Aluminium Windows)
3	**Mr. Mohammed Abras (Borrower)** Po Box.1112 1, Barqain Apartment 1, Sarooj AL Ain, Abudhabi, UAE **Also at:** Etisalat Services Holding LLC, **Designation:** Associate Engineer **Department:** Telecom Engineer In Po Box 3838, Abu Dhabi, UAE **Also at :** Plot 3C, S No 21/4, House Na, Khata 270/21/4/3C, Pattanagere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Ward No BBMP 198, Bangalore South Taluka, Bengaluru 560060. **Mr. Mohammed Sumair, (Power of Attorney)** H.No.8-1-21/9, Flat No.102, First Floor, Surya Nagar Colony, Tlichowki, Golconda (Hyd) Hyderabad-AP. Telangana-500008.	**Loan Account No. (1) 692046732 Rs. 2,30,348/- (2) 702024346 Rs.2,02,43,581/- Total Amount Rs.2,04,73,929/- (Rupees Two Crore Four Lakhs Seventy Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Nine Only) as on 31.08.2024**	**23.09.2024** .... **N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.09.2024**	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing **Site No.3C.** New BBMP Khatha No.217/21/4/3C formed in Sy.No.21/4, duly converted for residential purpose. Official Memorandum No.A.L.N(S)SR(KEN)/43/2016-17, Date:27.10.2017, issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District. situated at Pattanagere Village, Kengeri Hobli Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. Measuring East to West : 80 feet and North to South :40 Feet, Measuring **3200 Square feet .**the property comes under the limits of BBMP Hemmigepura Ward No.198. Kengeri, Bangalore and bounded as follows: **East by :** Remaining portion of same property No.21/4, **West by** : Road, **North by** : Property belongs to Jayanna, **South by** : Property belongs to Muthamma. And any construction thereon present and future.

*with further interest cost, expenses, and charges as applicable incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) fail to make payment to **HDFC Bank Limited** as aforesaid, then **HDFC Bank Limited** shall proceed against the above Secured Asset / Immovable Property under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset / Immovable Property, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of **HDFC Bank Limited**. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date : 03.10.2024
Place: Bengaluru

For HDFC Bank Ltd.
Sd/- Authorized Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd. under SARFAESI Act, 2002

IDFC First Bank Limited

IDFC FIRST Bank

(Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd) | CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 7th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031. Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6) & 9 (1)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) as per column (iii) that the below described immovable properties as per column (iv) mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" as described hereunder, for the recovery of amount due to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd)** from Borrower (s) and Co-Borrower (s) as per column (i).

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on **IDFC FIRST Bank** website i.e. **www.idfcfirstbank.com.**

S. NO	(i) Demand Notice Amount	(ii) Agreement ID	(iii) Name of Borrower (s), Co-Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s)	(v) Reserve Price Amount	(vi) EMD Amount	(vii) Date and Time of Auction	(viii) Date and Time of EMD Auction	(ix) Date and Time of Inspection	(x) Authorized Officer Name & Contact Number
1	INR 12008659.34/- Demand Notice dated: 24-May-2022	**21310782 & 10024207823**	**Rajasekhar Singamsetty & Suma S R**	INR 13718727.00/-	INR 1371872.70/-	19-Oct-2024 11.00 AM to 1.00 PM	18-Oct-2024 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM	15-Oct-2024 10:00 AM To 4:00 PM	Name- Preeti Toshniwal Contact Number- 9694702013 Name- Jacob Palayoor Lazar Contact Number- 8971675091

(iv) MORTGAGED PROPERTY ADDRESS: All That Piece And Parcel Of, The Residential Flat No. 206 (3Bhk) In 2Nd Floor, In The Residential Apartment Building Known As "Roshan Platinum Apartment", Having (1440.00 Sq. Ft Carpet Area), Super Built Up Area Of 2279.00 Sq. Ft, Property Constructed On Land Bearing Sy. No. 83/1, Measuring 1 Acre 06 Guntas And Sy.No. 83/2, Measuring 1 Acre 18 Guntas, Totally Measuring 2 Acres 24 Guntas, (Converted Vide Official Memorandum Dated 1-10-2010, Bearing No. Aln (Sb) Sr: 68/2010-11) Issued By The Special Debuty Commissioner), Bangalore, Now Said Property Comes Under The Limis Of Bbmp, Ward No. 193, Arekee Sub-Division, Present Municipal No. 1337, Bbmp Katha No. 1337/83/1/83/2, Situated At Arekare Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore, And Bounded On The:East: Sy. No. 82 , West: Sy. No. 85 ,North: Sy. No. 84 & South: Road

Disclaimer: Please note that the said notice is issued for sale of immovable property only and IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has no right to sale of the movable assets, if any, present at the immovable property.

Date : 03.10.2024

Sd/- Authorised Officer
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(Formerly known as IDFC Bank Ltd)

MIN LINKS KTR TO SAMANTA-CHAY DIVORCE, KICKS UP ROW

Ex-min sends legal notice to Surekha for 'baseless, defamatory statements', demands retraction of comments

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hyderabad

TWO days after breaking down over being trolled on social media, allegedly by people linked to the BRS, Endowments Minister Konda Surekha on Wednesday found herself embroiled in another controversy after linking pink party working president KT Rama Rao to the divorce of actors Samantha Ruth Prabhu and Akkineni Naga Chaitanya. Her remarks, which included accusing Rama Rao of blackmailing and tapping the phones of Tollywood actors, invited sharp criticism from various quarters.

Strongly reacting to the remarks, Samantha asserted that her divorce was amicable, with no political conspiracy involved. "My divorce is a personal matter, and I request that you refrain from speculating about it. Our choice to keep things private doesn't invite misrepresentation. Could you [Surekha] please keep my name out of political battles? I have always remained non-political and wish to do so," she said.

"I hope you realise that your words carry significant weight as a minister," the actor said.

Similarly, Chaitanya took to X to share that their divorce was a mutual decision considering the difference in their life goals. "However, there have been various baseless and completely ridiculous gossip on the matter so far. I have remained silent all this while out of deep respect for my earlier spouse as well as my family.

Today, the claim made by Konda Surekha garu is not only false but also absolutely ridiculous and unacceptable. Women deserve to be supported and respected. Taking advantage and exploiting the personal life decisions of celebrities for the sake of media headlines is shameful," he said in the post.

Chaitanya's father, Nagarjuna, also criticised the remarks and urged the minister to withdraw them. "Do not use the lives of popular film personalities, who stay away from politics, to criticise your opponents. Please respect fellow citizens' privacy. Your allegations against my family, being a responsible minister and woman, are completely irresponsible, and false," he posted on X.

Meanwhile, Rama Rao took the legal route and sent a notice to the minister over her "baseless and defamatory statements". In the notice, he condemned the allegations made by Surekha, including claims about phone tapping and comments linking him to the divorce of the actor couple. He demanded that the minister immediately retract her comments and issue a public apology. The former minister also threatened to file a defamation suit if Surekha failed to tender an apology within 24 hours.

Senior BRS leader and former minister T Harish Rao also condemned the statements made by the endowments minister and demanded an unconditional apology from her.

Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B Khandre inaugurates Wildlife Week celebrations in Bengaluru on Wednesday. Actor Rishab Shetty looks on

Green signal for trekking in K'taka forests from today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Forest, Environment and Ecology Minister Eshwar B Khandre on Wednesday said that trekking in certain forest areas, including Kumara Parvatha, will be allowed from Thursday.

It was suspended a few months ago because of overcrowding and complaints of littering along the trekking routes. Trekkers will now have to book tickets through the forest department's website.

Khandre said trekking will be launched officially on Thursday. He was speaking on the sidelines of the 70th Wildlife Week celebrations after inaugurating a walkathon from Cubbon Park to Lal Bagh. Khandre, actor Rishabh Shetty, forest officials, conservationists, experts and nature lovers participated in the walkathon.

The forest department and the Eco-Tourism Development Board were directed to undertake a carrying-capacity study of the trekking routes. It was also announced to regulate tourism through a single window portal. "Henceforth, bookings for trekking, safari, forest guesthouses and even boating will have to be done through the department's website," a senior forest official told *TNIE*.

> **Henceforth, bookings for trekking, safari, forest guesthouses and even boating will have to be done through the department's website**
>
> Senior Forest Officer

In view of several complaints related to bookings made through the board's website, the government decided to make them through the department's portal. There were instances of trekkers paying up to Rs 5,000 per booking and tour operators paying only Rs 700 a ticket to the department. Also, there were instances of allowing bookings without any regulation, leading to overcrowding in some places. "Now, while booking, details of trekkers, including their ID proof and photographs, should be uploaded. Trekkers should show their ID cards to forest officials before entering the forest. Gradually, more booking services will be added. Ticket pricing will also be streamlined to regulate the crowd," the official said. Khandre said that around 10,000 acres of encroached forest land has been recovered. The state's forest cover has to be increased to meet the norm that 33% of land should have green cover. But in Karnataka, it is only 22%.

CASHLESS TRAVEL IN KSRTC FROM NOV

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

AFTER a long-delay, cashless travel in all Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) buses is all set to commence in November. Initially scheduled to be introduced in June, it was delayed as the existing contract with the ticket vending handheld devices ends only in October. The cashless machines will be deployed after this deadline.

"The new handheld electronic ticket machines (ETMs) have already been implemented in Depot 4. With the introduction of this new machine passengers will have the flexibility to choose their preferred payment method-- UPI, credit or debit cards in over 8,000 KSRTC buses. This will eliminate the anxiety of tendering exact change during travel," said a senior KSRTC official.

Explaining the delay, the official said "Pilot project is going on and we do not want to hurry up. We are waiting for the contract of the current handheld devices to end and post that all the KSRTC buses will have ETMs. Our staff will be trained to use these devices."

Explaining the procedure, an officer said passengers will have to inform the conductor of their destination and he will input this information and the number of passengers into the ETM. It will then generate the code with the ticket fare, which should be scanned for payment. Once the payment is successful, the ticket will be printed. He added that the device comes with a camera for validating passes and can last upto 72 hours on a single charge.

FESTIVE PREPS

Artisans make clay idols of Goddess Durga and Mahishasura at a workshop in Old Town in Bhubaneswar on Wednesday on the eve of Dasara | DEBADATA MALLICK

New software to boost KRIDL's efficiency

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Rural Infrastructure Development Ltd (KRIDL) has launched a software application, Gandhi Sakshi Kayaka 2.0, also known as work monitoring system, to improve fund management and ensure transparency in the implementation of its projects.

"Transparency in operations is crucial for KRIDL. Developed by our Centre for Smart Governance, Gandhi Sakshi Kayaka 2.0 will significantly enhance efficiency and accountability in our projects. This advanced software solution is a vital step towards achieving our commitment to better governance and effective service delivery," Minister of Rural Development, Panchayat Raj and Information Technology Priyank Kharge said after unveiling it on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

KRIDL is an undertaking of the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj. The advantages of Gandhi Sakshi Kayaka 2.0 include enhanced financial tracking, geo-tagged documentation, material management, and real-time project oversight.

Man beats boy to death for resisting sexual abuse

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

A 34-year-old man from Kancheepuram was arrested for allegedly beating a five-year-old boy to death, for crying out loud when he attempted to sexually abuse him on Sunday night. The accused, M Rajesh of Karukkupet village, was booked under Sections 9 (m) and 10 of the Pocso Act and 103 of the BNS, and remanded in judicial custody on Tuesday.

According to the Kancheepuram Taluk police, the accused works as a surveyor in the Land Survey Division of Kancheepuram district. Rajesh got separated from his wife some years ago. A few months ago, he began frequenting a pushcart eatery run by a woman, whom he befriended and eventually got into a relationship with, police said.

The woman lived with her mother and two children — a five-year-old boy and nine-year-old girl — after getting separated from her husband. "Rajesh would often visit her house while the children were at school. He would also take the children to his house where they would play. On Sunday too, Rajesh took both of them to his house, where he attempted to sexually abuse the boy. However, when the boy resisted and started crying loudly, Rajesh beat him and pushed him to the ground," a police officer said.

After this, Rajesh dropped the children back at their house and left. Around 1.30 am on Monday, the boy woke up and started vomiting. He was rushed to a government hospital where he died a few hours later. Upon finding external injuries on his body, the doctors there alerted the police. The boy's body was then sent for autopsy and a case was registered, police said.

"During inquiry, the victim's sister told the police that she saw Rajesh physically assaulting her brother. Rajesh was then questioned, and he confessed to the crime," the police officer said.

Open-air dinner hosted to bust superstitions

Bengaluru: Anti-superstition activists and rationalists hosted an open-air dinner in front of Town Hall on Wednesday to dispel blind beliefs associated with Mahalaya Amavasya and solar eclipse. The activists said innocent people become soft targets of fake godmen and astrologers. "This act is to encourage people to develop rational thinking. It is not a curse or bad omen if people eat or drink or carry out their works. We appeal to people not to get fooled by astrologers and swamijis who ask people not to eat or work during such celestial events," said T Narasimhamurthy, founder of Moodanambike Virodhi Okkuta.

EXPRESS READ

Cambridge college hosts inauguration ceremony

Bengaluru: Cambridge Institute of Technology hosted the first-year inauguration ceremony for the 2024-25 academic year, featuring guests, including Dr Higher Education Minister MC Sudhakar, futurist Anand Munshi and motivational speaker KN Balasubramanya Murthy. Dr Sudhakar highlighted the importance of leveraging campus placements to enhance career prospects. "Inspire," the institute's newsletter, showcasing achievements was released.

A 'Swachhta Run' was organised by the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL), Southern Region II, under the 'Swachhta Hi Sewa' campaign as part of Gandhi Jayanti celebrations in Bengaluru on Wednesday. TR Krishna Kumar, Executive Director (SR-II), flagged off the Swachhta Run at the PGCIL regional office. Programmes like distribution of dustbins, felicitation of sanitation workers, shramdaan activities, a plantation drive and awareness programmes, were also held.

Cases against Manaf, Eshwar Malpe

Kozhikode: The Ankola police have registered cases against lorry driver Manaf and diver Eshwar Malpe for spreading false information during the search operations for Arjun. The police allege that their misinformation hampered the search efforts. The authorities had already been conducting extensive operations involving multiple agencies, including the Army, Navy and National Disaster Response Force, to locate Arjun and two others, they said.

BJP top brass has taken note of remarks by Yatnal: Joshi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UNION Minister Pralhad Joshi on Wednesday said BJP leader and MLA Basangouda Patil Yatnal is speaking against the party's policies and the Central leaders have taken note of his recent remarks. Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Joshi said all issues should be discussed within the party forum and not in the public. He was responding to a question if the BJP high command is not capable of taking action against its MLA.

BJP MP Kota Srinivas Poojary also said that if there are any differences within the party, that should be resolved internally. It is not correct to speak against the party state president BY Vijayendra, who is appointed by the party high command, he said and added that all BJP leaders' focus should be more on fighting against the government which has failed on all fronts.

The current developments in Karnataka related to allegations against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah are discussed across the country, the BJP MP said.

Joshi and Poojary said the CM should resign to ensure a free and impartial probe against him in the MUDA sites allotment case.

100 YEARS SINCE...

1924 B'gavi Cong session, the only one that the Mahatma chaired

A file photo of Mahatma Gandhi at the Belgaum Congress session in 1924

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Belagavi

THE 155th Gandhi Jayanti celebrations on Wednesday a lso marked the centenary of the 39th Congress Plenary presided over by Mahatma Gandhi in Belagavi (then called Belgaum) in 1924.

The three-day session began on December 26, 1924, and is considered a significant event in the Independence Movement as it motivated the youth to actively participate in the freedom struggle.

According to available records, several prominent leaders, including Jawaharlal Nehru, Sarojini Naidu, Abdul Ghaffar Khan, Maulana Azad, and Gangadharrao Deshpande, attended the Belagavi Congress session.

Speaking to *The New Indian Express*, Subhash Kulkarni recalled what his father—freedom fighter RH Kulkarni—told him about the session. "Several freedom fighters from various cities and towns had put pressure on Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, who was the Congress secretary, to hold the 39th Congress Plenary in their respective areas, but late Gangadharrao Deshpande, a freedom fighter from Belagavi, was able to convince the Mahatma of the significance of having it in Belagavi," Subhash said.

Belagavi tryst with Gandhi

According to Subhash, Mahatma Gandhi visited Belagavi at least six times during the freedom struggle.

"At a time when the freedom movement was gaining momentum in 1916, Gandhiji had come to Belagavi along with Balagangadhar Tilak. Several youth leaders from Belagavi had urged Gandhiji not to visit Belagavi at that time, but the Mahatma dared to visit, saying that except for his death, nothing can prevent him from visiting Belagavi," Subhash said.

Gandhi was in Belagavi from April 27 to May 1 in 1916 to bolster the freedom movement in the region. Next, he visited Belagavi on November 8 and 9 in 1920. Later, he stayed in Belagavi for 15 days during the 24th Congress Plenary in 1924. Gandhi stayed in Belagavi on April 18 and 19 in 1927 on his way to Maharashtra. Then, he came here again on March 4, 1934, and stayed in Belagavi, Nipani, and Shedbal (Athani taluk) for seven days.

From April 17 to 23, Gandhi stayed in the Kumari Ashram at Hudali, near Belagavi, while attending the conference of Gandhi Seva Sangh. Sources said that at least 250 huts were erected to accommodate the guests at Hudali.

Veerasoudha

In memory of the historic 39th Congress session, the State Government has constructed Veerasoudha, a Gandhi memorial at Tilakwadi, Belagavi, where the session was held. On Wednesday, Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated in a grand manner at Veerasoudha.

EDITORIAL

"The law barks at all but bites only the poor, the powerless, the illiterate, the ignorant

Justic V R Krishna Iyer

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

MUDA CASE A WARNING FOR KARNATAKA CONG TO ORDER ITS HOUSE

A week of hectic political developments in Karnataka found Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the dock over 14 sites given to his wife Parvathy B M by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) as compensation for 3.16 acres of land she gave up elsewhere. An adverse high court order, an FIR by Lokayukta police and a case information report by the Enforcement Directorate for alleged money laundering followed in quick succession. Then all of it was topped by an anti-climax. Parvathy returned the sites to MUDA and sought her land back, claiming that "no house, plot or wealth is more important than my husband's honour and dignity". MUDA obliged immediately, cancelling the sites and looking into the legalities of the transfer. The move appears designed to turn the case and give Siddaramaiah some reprieve, but it has not stopped the ED from continuing its probe. At the crux is a discrepancy in land value: 3.16 acres of land in Kesare village on the outskirts of Mysuru, versus 14 sites in upmarket Vijayanagar in the city that are said to be worth ₹62 crore. The allegation was that the CM and his family were benefiting from a lop-sided compensation scheme.

For now, the CM could be safe in his saddle. Siddaramaiah has managed to sidestep allegations of corruption and maintain a semblance of his image as a clean politician, just as he had tamped down on the Hublot watch controversy. The 2016 row, which had broken out over a ₹70-lakh watch gifted to him by a friend in Dubai, had forced him to hand it over as a state asset. In both cases, he preferred to play the victim card and uphold a righteous image, all the while declaring that he would not resign from the top post.

In the land case, Parvathy's emotional letter undoubtedly struck a chord with the public, especially among the CM's loyal constituents. The opposition, which was asking for Siddaramaiah's resignation, has to step back for now. The political upheaval should come as a warning for the Congress to put its house in order and concentrate on governance. The party, which got a big mandate from the people, will have to live up to its election promises and not indulge in internal bickering and daily politicking of who should be CM.

NEED FOR SELF-RELIANCE IN DEFENCE EQUIPMENT

IN a breakthrough of sorts, Tata Advanced Systems has said it will assemble and sell armoured carriers to the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces. The unit in Casablanca that will assemble these amphibious vehicles will be the first foreign unit for an Indian defence manufacturer. The vehicle is said to be a versatile fighting machine and is likely to evince interest from other African countries. Most of Africa is currently dependent either on Russia or China for their defence equipment, and their supply is erratic. In this scenario, the Casablanca facility may emerge as a major export hub for the Indian company.

The deal is indeed a feather in India's chequered defence production cap. It is a reminder that despite several strides in this sector, Indian continues to import 60-65 percent of its defence equipment. With a spend of over $70 billion, India was the world's second largest arms importer in 2020, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. This high import dependency has significantly contributed to our fiscal deficit. It is no wonder that we have been struggling for the last three decades to reverse the trend by boosting local production through indigenisation and opening up the sector to private players.

Over the last few years, the government's Made in India drive has encouraged indigenous design, development and manufacture by increasing the number of defence items that cannot be imported. There have been many successful projects such as the light combat aircraft Tejas, artillery gun Dhanush and the intercontinental ballistic missile Agni V. The government has promoted private sector production too, issuing as many as 379 licences to 230 Indian companies. However, most of these have either been scrapped or are on the backburner, such as the ₹8,000-crore light utility helicopter project and the ₹32,000-crore bid to build minesweepers with South Korean support. At the moment, about 45 percent of all arms equipment is sourced from Russia; for the army, the dependence may be as high as 80 percent. This is one of the factors that has crimped our foreign policy. In our quest to be a strong nation, there is obviously no short cut to self-reliance in defence production.

QUICK TAKE

SAVING SUBCONTINENTAL FLORA

BOTANISTS have identified 33 'diversity dark spots' around the world where about a lakh of plant species are believed to be still scientifically undescribed; the majority of them are also believed to be at risk of extinction. Research led from the Kew Botanic Gardens in the UK and published in the *New Phytologist* show some of the dark spots fall in India, especially Assam. Others in the region include parts of western Himalaya, Bangladesh and Myanmar. As flora and fauna get obliterated at an alarming pace because of climate change, Indian institutions should join this worthy effort at enumerating and saving as many new and known species as possible.

No one theory can summarise the Manipur conflict. The initial days were fired by an explosion of emotions. Now it looks more like vested interests at play

THE PROLONGED CONFLICT TRAP IN THE NORTHEAST

PRADIP PHANJOUBAM

Editor, *Imphal Review of Arts and Politics*

MANOAR PARDIKAR

MANIPUR continues to be trapped in the dark bottomless abyss it began descending into on May 3, 2023, when a violent conflict broke out between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo group of tribes. For inexplicable reasons, the state as well as Union governments seem content leaving this deadly conflict to rage on till passions wear out. After 17 months, things are much more complex as mistrust and hatred between the warring communities have entrenched deeper, given the mounting casualties and diminishing hopes of those displaced of returning home again.

If the state government was found incapable in the first few weeks of the outbreak, the Union government should have firmly clamped down using what Max Weber called the state's monopoly over the legitimate use of coercive force. This had seemed would be the case, with military aircraft streaming in day and night into Imphal, rushing in additional central security personnel to bring up the total to approximately 60,000 together with those already deployed.

Nothing of what all awaited with a combine of fear and expectation, however, happened. Instead, the forces were used to merely create a buffer zone to separate the state's central valley from the surrounding hills. Ostensibly, this was meant to keep the two warring sides apart, for by then mutual ethnic cleansing had ensured there were few or no Kukis left in the valley and no Meiteis left in the foothills. In the higher reaches of the hills are the Nagas, who have thankfully remained neutral so far.

The monopoly over legitimate violence that the state abdicated was soon usurped by armed civil militias on either side, assuming the role of community defenders, a responsibility that should have rested solely in the hands of the state. Today, given the proliferation of lethal arms in the hands of the civil population, the state reclaiming this monopoly would be a much bigger task. Disarming now cannot be piecemeal either and will have to be by simultaneous and comprehensive operations on both sides.

The legitimacy of the initial strategy of creating a buffer zone to contain the violence cannot be disputed. However, since this was not accompanied by parallel strategies to de-escalate and defuse the crisis, the exercise has only amounted to a matter of delaying the unfolding excruciating tragedy.

There were speculations that this strategy was meant to draw Meitei insurgents into the valley from their hideouts in Myanmar in a big way and then corner them to enter into peace talks with the government. This again was seen as aimed to happen before the 2024 parliamentary elections so the BJP could reap an extra electoral bonus.

Meitei insurgents and a faction of Assam's United Liberation Front of Asom-Independent are the only ones still to come to the negotiating table. Naga militants have not disarmed, but have been in peace parleys with the government for close to three decades now.

A total of 25 Kuki militant groups under two conglomerations, though they have never fought the Indian state, are also in what is known as a Suspension of Operation (SoO) agreement. The SoO was first with the security forces alone, beginning 2005. The agreement was upgraded to involve the Union and state governments to become a tripartite peace talk from 2008 onwards. Many saw in this a move to circumvent and counterbalance the Naga and Meitei insurgents, thus creating mutual suspicions from the start.

Even if it is true that the conflict was deliberately allowed to prolong as a bait for Meitei insurgents, the strategy is now proving to be only partially successful. Even if it were to meet with complete success, the question is, can this justify the unforgivable tolls in terms of public misery and bitter mutual hatred between the two ethnic groups, leaving scars that will not heal easily?

Social media is also coming to be weaponised to make things worse. Fake news and propaganda campaigns posing as information are now flooding public spaces. The result has been less about lies coming to be seen as truths but more about making people not believe anything they see or hear anymore, quite in the spirit of a familiar quote often attributed to Hannah Arendt. The outcome is a perpetual state of uncertainty, anxiety and fear—a volatile mix easy to inflame.

The officialdom is not helping either. The unified command constituted at the start of the violence to ensure smooth coordination of operations among the different security establishments seems to be in complete disarray . Rather than a consensual voice on operations and intelligence, each have now increasingly come to project their own versions of the grave situation, as was witnessed in the case of the recent shocking drone warfare and the sensational intelligence report of infiltration by 900 trained Kuki fighters into Manipur from Myanmar, which ultimately could not be substantiated.

Meanwhile, even as fatigue sets in and a larger section of the people on both sides have begun longing for normalcy, it has also become clear there are vested interests who want the conflict pot to continue boiling. Periodic explosions of skirmishes in different pockets and fake alerts of dangers have become a familiar tool in this shadow warfare.

Like all social problems, there cannot be a standalone theory to summarise any conflict, for there obviously are many different factors contributing to it. However, Paul Collier's 2003 report for the World Bank on conflict dynamics, provocatively titled *Breaking the Conflict Trap: War is Market*, may shed some valuable light on Manipur's current situation.

The initial days of the clashes would understandably have been fired primarily by explosions of emotions. About 17 months into the crisis, the conflict's fuel is beginning to resemble Collier's description of conflict as a benefit maximiser, driven by expectations of rewards ahead.

There would also be many who benefit directly from an emerging "military industrial complex" that Noam Chomsky characterised, therefore wanting the feud to drag on. Breaking the conflict trap now would have to also be through an unambiguous message that there are no rewards to be had from this conflict. The best way forward is towards a reconciliation.

(Views are personal)
(phanjoubam@gmail.com)

WHY A POPULIST LAW CAN HARM MORE THAN HEAL

KAJAL BASU

Veteran journalist

NIRBHAYA, a 23-year-old physiotherapy student and a victim of rape-mutilation-murder, died on December 29, 2012. Her agonising death, two weeks after her gang-rape in a bus in New Delhi, set the country ablaze with outrage. The crime's lividness led to the central government enacting the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act—the Nirbhaya Act—which came into effect on February 3, 2013, two months after Nirbhaya's passing.

The new law instituted significant changes in legislation on anti-women offences. It broadened the definition of rape, expanding it from forced penile insertion to penetration by anything wielded by the attacker into any orifice. It increased the age of consent to 18. It also protracted the period of imprisonment and introduced the possibility of capital punishment should a sexual transgression lead to death.

A little more than 12 years later, this August 9, Abhaya, a postgraduate trainee doctor at R G Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, was found raped and murdered with extreme violence. Protests—led by junior doctors at the 26 state-run hospitals-cum-medical colleges in Bengal—have been roiling Kolkata since, putting the state government on the backfoot and inviting *suo motu* censure from the Supreme Court. Less than a month after Abhaya's murder, the Bengal assembly, reduced to flatfooted anxiety by popular birse, passed the Aparajita Woman and Child (West Bengal Criminal Laws Amendment) Bill, 2024 with surprising unanimity even from the opposition benches.

The Nirbhaya Act did not begin as an act of parliament, whose imprimatur it gained after it had been promulgated as an ordinance by the then president Pranab Mukherjee. The Aparajita Bill also needs presidential assent to be enacted. Perhaps a signature of both the earlier law and the proposed one is that neither went through the necessary filter of being debated threadbare in legislatures.

Consequently, the Nirbhaya Act is still receiving flak. And the Aparajita Bill has already magnetised widespread criticism, not so much from the general public (which is demanding a quicksilver execution of the single perpetrator in custody), but from legal eagles and critics of laws created by reflex political judgement, especially when they are populist and not meliorist.

Separated by more than a decade of increasing numbers and brutality of sexual assaults on women, the criticisms of both the laws read much like products of the same template: that socially unconsidered laws motivated by concerns more crowd-pleasing than genuinely justiciable eventually unravel and even boomerang.

A little more than two weeks after the Nirbhaya Act was rolled out, women's groups got together at Delhi's Jantar Mantar to protest what they saw as both its weak and its excessive provisions. A whole raft of issues was highlighted from the new definition of gender neutrality of rape, the sanction required if military personnel were accused, and the recognition of marital rape to the need for government permission to pursue rape investigations against public servants.

PTI

> The central Nirbhaya Act and Bengal's Aparajita Bill were proposed as hasty political reactions to public outrage. Neither passed through adequate legislative scrutiny. And both are now being critiqued as harming the very cause they were meant to serve

There were plentiful international studies, legal and sociological, that had established that harsher punition did not reduce the incidence of any crime, and actually escalated rape into rape-and-murder. Critics of the Nirbhaya Act were all too aware that the law could enkindle more sexual hyperviolence and goad a retreat from actionable punishment. Kneejerk or defence-less retribution written into law has often meant that judges have been unwilling to throw the full book at a perpetrator. Punishments have been eased, prosecutors under-considered, the defence allowed more latitude. This taut tensionality between the letter of the law and the spirit of justice has often meant that both have lost their sheen.

Data supports this contention. The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) showed that in the six years between 2012 and 2018, rape cases increased by 34 percent. The figures have stayed high despite the escalation of penalties, including a minimum sentence of 10 years with possible life imprisonment, and the death penalty for a victim younger than 12 years.

Despite the stringency in law, in 2018-22, according to the NCRB, conviction rates for rape were at 27-28 percent. In contrast, in the UK, with its less retributive judgmentalism and more correctionality, the conviction rate for rape was 60.2 percent in 2023 and 63.5 percent in 2022.

With the cautioning of the Nirbhaya Act behind us, it is distressing to see the political establishment unchanged in its populistic viscerality. The Aparajita Bill is being critiqued for going one further than the Nirbhaya Act in mandating the death penalty for convicts of rape were the victim to die or be left vegetative. This is the only law in the country that makes the death penalty compulsory for a particular crime. And it is illegal. The bill specifies life imprisonment without parole for gang-rapists, with the option of capital punishment, replacing the earlier punishment of 20 years with the possibility of life imprisonment. Critics say it will drive rapists to kill their victims rather than leave them as witnesses. It will also predispose judges to be less than optimally punitory, because the vast majority of judges hew to life.

Politics, it is said, is both the creator and the death of law; and law is the enforcer of political propriety. The Nirbhaya Act and the Aparajita Bill have put this wisdom under strain.

(Views are personal)
(kajalrbasu@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Athlete-centric decisions

Ref: *IOA mess threatens to derail India's bid for Olympics 2036* (Oct 2). It's high time the IOA cleans its house and addresses its internal conflicts. Independent investigations and removal of tainted officials are necessary. Constitutional amendments ensuring independent elections, term limits and financial transparency are crucial. Athlete-centric decision making is a must-have.
Avinashiappan Myilsami, Sulur

Mahatma's models

Ref: *Remembering the many sides of the Mahatma* (Oct 2). Gandhiji is not outdated; only a need arises to renew his idea of India as a pluralistic civilisation. We must adore the Mahatma in formulating new thinking models beyond the anthropocene about spirituality, technology and innovation.
Katragadda Sarveswara Rao, Bhubaneswar

Unwavering commitment

To date, Mahatma Gandhi remains the visiting card for Indians in foreign soil. His unwavering commitment to non-violence and simple lifestyle makes his life a philosophy in the art of living.
Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur

Gandhian vision

Indeed, the Mahatma had many sides and an innovative mind. He had a vision for an independent India. He wanted to achieve it by non-violent means and by involving all 40 crore Indians at the time. Gandhiji worked on removing untouchability, alcoholism, communal disharmony and other social vices.
Aditya Kamble, Kalaburagi

Yearlong remembrance

It is more a ritual associated with the protocol to remember the Mahatma on his birthday, to pay floral tributes in his *samadhi* and forget his teachings for the rest of the year. The system of encouraging the cottage industry is more relevant for this day than anytime earlier. Had this system been groomed further with a novel technological push, there would not have been any need for a programme like the rural employment guarantee scheme.
A G Rajmohan, Anantapur

Cricketing gamble

Ref: *Rohit & co squeeze a win out of nowhere* (Oct 2). Call it the Gambhir effect or Rohit Sharma's daredevilry, the Indian cricket team took a calculated gamble to step up the pace in the second innings, which enabled them to humble a hapless Bangladesh by seven wickets in the truncated second Test at Kanpur. The poor Bangladeshis, buoyant after a 2-0 win over Pakistan, did not know what hit them.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Rajnath Singh @rajnathsingh
...Wherever Congress comes to power, the path of development gets blocked. Congress's attempt to mislead the people will not succeed.

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
Unless we bring in a system that directly supports sportspersons, and put them in charge instead of politicians in sports associations, India cannot achieve its true potential.

Sanjay Jha @JhaSanjay
The world remembers Mahatma Gandhi today. His political contemporary Adolf Hitler lies under a residential car-park, forgotten and reviled. History is a cruel but a just leveller.

EAM-Blinken meet focuses on boosting ties, West Asia

Jaishankar says discussions on Indo-Pacific and Ukraine also fruitful

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken discussed bilateral ties and the crisis in West Asia, among others, during their meeting in Washington DC on Tuesday.

"We followed up on the Delaware bilateral and Quad meetings. Our discussions also covered deepening bilateral cooperation, situation in West Asia, the recent developments in the Indian subcontinent, the Indo-Pacific and Ukraine," Jaishankar said in a post on X.

Blinken said they discussed cooperation in climate change and ways to promote regional security and prosperity. "... Iran, for the second time in five months, launched a direct attack on Israel, including some 200 ballistic missiles. This is totally unacceptable, and the entire world should condemn it," Blinken said. He said that Israel, with the active support of the United States and other partners, effectively defeated this attack.

Blinken spoke about the vibrancy and strength behind the partnership that joins the US and India. "We had Prime Minister Modi here and actually in Wilmington, Delaware for the Quad meeting as well as a bilateral meeting with President Biden. The warmth of that meeting, the ambition in the relationship, is at a level we've never seen before," he said.

EAM Jaishankar holds talks with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Washington DC

> **India plays a critical role on the global stage, working for peace, working for stability, working for security... we are doing more and more together** — Antony Blinken, US Secretary of State

India and the US are partnering in different areas, including strategic technology, space, semiconductors, and clean energy. "India plays a critical role on the global stage, working for peace, working for stability, working for security... we're doing more and more together," Blinken said. Jaishankar said, "I think on the bilateral side there's a lot that we've done since our last meeting, but there are global issues to discuss."

The State Department said Blinken noted PM Modi's August visit to Kyiv and reiterated the importance of a just and lasting peace for Ukraine. The duo also discussed plans to expand collaboration on clean energy initiatives to address global climate crisis.

Swachh Bharat a mass movement: PM

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday described the Swachh Bharat Mission as the largest and most successful people's movement of the 21st century, highlighting its impact on public health and well-being.

Addressing an event to mark 10 years of the mission, Modi said mass participation has transformed the campaign into a new path to prosperity for India. "You all made the Swachh Bharat Mission a success," the PM said while noting that over 28 crore people took part in more than 27 lakh events organised in just 15 days during the 'Sewa Pakhwada'.

He said chief ministers, ministers, and other representatives played key roles in this national effort. "And, it is continuous effort by everyone which can only lead to a clean India," he said.

Modi lashed out at non-BJP previous governments for neglecting the basic cleanliness and sanitation issues. "They never considered dirt and lack of toilets as national issues. It was as if they made dirt a part of their lives," he said. Modi said those who used Mahatma Gandhi for their political benefits and vote bank have now forgotten his subject of interest. He said filth and lack of toilets were never considered as a national issue. As a result, the PM said, there were no discussions about it in society and lack of cleanliness became a part of life.

Modi said more than 60 per cent of the population was forced to defecate in the open a decade ago, which he called an insult to Dalits, backward classes and tribal communities, and a major source of inconvenience for women. Citing research, he said the mission is saving 60,000 to 70,000 children's lives annually.

A UNICEF report, he added, found that over 90 per cent of women feel safer due to the availability of household toilets. "Cleanliness is not just a one-day task but a lifelong value," the PM said, urging citizens to treat their surroundings with the same reverence as places of worship.

"The Swachh Bharat Mission has given a significant boost to the circular economy in India," he said, highlighting that household waste is now being transformed into valuable resources. He mentioned initiatives to eliminate manual cleaning of septic tanks and revealed that the government is collaborating with both private and public sectors in this regard. "We are also encouraging professionals and startups," he added, noting that around 5,000 clean-tech startups have been registered.

At the event, he inaugurated projects worth ₹10,000 crore under the Swachh Bharat and AMRUT 2.0 missions, which include water and sewage treatment facilities across states. "When people talk about 21st-century India even after 1,000 years, they will definitely remember the Swachh Bharat Mission," Modi asserted, underlining the campaign's lasting legacy.

Modi also thanked industries involved in production of single-use plastics and political parties that backed the initiative. He noted that over 12 crore toilets have been constructed, with coverage increasing from less than 40 per cent to 100 per cent.

- Swachh Bharat Mission is the largest and most successful people's movement of **21st** century
- SWACHCH BHARAT MISSION SAVING **60,000-70,000** CHILDREN'S LIVES YEARLY
- Over **90%** of women feel safer due to the availability of household toilets
- There's positive shift in attitudes toward sanitation workers

KEY TAKEAWAYS

NEW OPPORTUNITIES EMERGING IN WATER AND SANITATION SECTOR

GOVT COLLABORATING WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS FOR INITIATIVES TO ELIMINATE MANUAL CLEANING OF SEPTIC TANKS

- Around **5,000** clean-tech startups registered
- Over 12 cr toilets have been constructed, with coverage increasing from less than 40% to 100%
- PROJECTS WORTH **₹10,000 CRORE** UNDER THE SWACHH BHARAT AND AMRUT **2.0 MISSIONS** INAUGURATED

Sharad Pawar moves SC to prevent Ajit faction from using 'clock' symbol

SUCHITRA K MOHANTY @ New Delhi

NCP veteran Sharad Pawar has filed a fresh plea in the Supreme Court to prevent the Ajit Pawar faction from using the 'clock' symbol for the upcoming Assembly polls in Maharashtra.

In his petition, Sharad Pawar cited that his party lost votes in the Lok Sabha polls as the Ajit faction fought with the 'clock' symbol, confusing the voters as to who represented the NCP.

He urged the top court to pass appropriate orders restraining Ajit from using the 'clock' symbol until the SC decides his appeal against the ECI order.

The NCP veteran has prayed to the court that Ajit Pawar be directed to move the Election Commission of India (ECI) for a fresh symbol.

Sharad Pawar has also urged that the Ajit Pawar faction be not allowed to use the 'clock' symbol till the SC adjudicates on the appeal filed by him against ECI recognising Ajit as the real NCP and awarding it the 'clock' symbol.

Notably, Sharad Pawar had been temporarily given the symbol of 'man blowing a turha' by the EC. The main petition between the two factions would likely to come up for hearing on October 15.

In its March 19 order, the apex court had directed the Ajit Pawar faction to issue a public notice in English, Hindi and Marathi media, mentioning in all of its campaign advertisements that the 'clock' symbol allotted to it is subject to the adjudication of the plea filed by Sharad Pawar-led faction pending before the SC.

The court earlier stated that there should be no dispute between Ajit and Sharad faction. It also directed the Ajit group to "meticulously comply" with the earlier direction with respect to adding disclaimers in their poll campaigns that they would use the 'clock' with a disclaimer that the matter was sub-judice in the top court.

On February 12, Sharad faction had moved SC challenging ECI's decision to recognize Ajit faction as the real NCP.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

Plea on discrimination in jails: Verdict today

A three-judge bench will pronounce its verdict on a plea alleging caste-based discrimination in some state prisons, on Thursday. The bench had, in January, sought responses from the Centre and 11 state governments after the petitioner said that jail manuals in these states discriminate in the allocation of work inside their prisons.

Notice to Centre on rights of cyclists

The National Human Rights Commission has asked the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to act on rights of cyclists. Petitioner Radhakanta Tripathy had cited examples of deaths and injuries to cyclists due to the negligence and inaction of authorities and said design fixes could make roads safer for all.

Army's indigenous push to support jawans on LAC

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Army has sought indigenous solutions to ease the vagaries of high altitude in terms of habitat and logistics for its soldiers stationed along the Line of Actual Control.

Delhi-based startup DTech 360 Innovations was called in to Leh to showcase its advanced high-altitude habitat solution, which can maintain the inside temperature without using a heater, kerosene oil or generator.

Speaking to this newspaper during the recently held HimTech Symposium 2024 at Leh, organised by the Fire & Fury Corps, DTech 360 Innovations' MD Vinay Mittal claimed that the "Peak Pods" can withstand a wind speed of 190 kmph. "Our product is a very lightweight and 100 per cent relocatable and modular structure which can be erected and dismantled in a maximum 6-8 hours. It also prevents snow accumulation."

Talking about the technology, Mittal said, "Peak Pods" is a revolutionary indigenous product, which has been developed after a four-year of research and development and it is suitable for the troops posted in the forward areas in inclement weather conditions."

An indigenously developed high-altitude mule; (R) A high-altitude habitat undergoing the evaluation test | EXPRESS

He said that there is no technology that can maintain the shelter's temperature at 10-15°C when the outside temperature is — 40°C, and that too without using any heater, kerosene oil or generator.

The generated electricity can be stored and used for three days. "It doesn't need any civil works or foundation work. It is a foldable plinth and can be transported from one location to another. It can be dismantled into pieces of 30kg each."

Mittal said it has in-built biodegradable toilets that convert human wastes into grey water, reducing environmental impact. This solves a serious issue of human defection at high altitudes.

The Army has been evaluating the product, on a no-cost-no-commitment basis, over the last couple of years at three high-altitude locations—Leh (11,500 feet), Daulat Beg Oldie (16,700 feet), and Durbuk (12,500 feet).

According to the sources, the Army has procured and inducted 100 robotic mules under the fourth tranche of emergency procurements (EP), finalised between September 2022 to September 2023. Under EP Contracts up to ~ 300 crore can be placed which will have to be concluded within one year.

The robotic mule, brought by AeroArc, is a ground robot claimed to fit unstructured urban and natural environments for defence applications.

56-yr-long search recovers bodies of IAF personnel

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Army has retrieved the bodies of four comrades who died in a plane crash over 56 years ago at Rohtang Pass.

The Dogra Scouts led a search and rescue mission to recover the remains of personnel from the Indian Air Force's Antonov (AN)-12 transport aircraft, which crashed at Rohtang Pass in 1968. The mission, including representatives of Tiranga Mountain Rescue, is part of the larger Chandra Bhaga Mountain Expedition.

"The joint team has recovered the remains of four more individuals from the site, marking a significant success in one of India's longest-running search and recovery operations," the Army said. "For decades, the wreckage and remains of the victims remained lost in the icy terrain. It was only in 2003 when mountaineers from the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering discovered the wreckage," it added.

The importance of Dalit votes in Haryana

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

WITH campaigning for the Haryana assembly polls coming to an end on Thursday, all eyes are on the Dalit votes, which comprise 20% of the state's population. With new alliances such as BSP-INLD and JJP-Azad Samaj Party testing the waters, the caste dynamics have changed the political landscape, say observers.

While the main contenders, the Congress and the ruling BJP, are going all-out to woo the Dalit communities, the grand old party is harping on the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, where the Dalit voters have shown a favorable shift towards it.

The Congress garnered 68% of Dalit votes in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, whereas the BJP managed to get 24%. The results were a huge setback for the BJP, as it obtained 51% of Dalit votes in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections while the Congress had only 25%.

The Lok Sabha results showed a significant change in the mood among the community, said Surinder S Jodhka from Jawaharlal Nehru University. "It showed people's dissatisfaction with BJP. The Opposition could build an effective narrative against the BJP—whether the attack on the Constitution, farm laws and others," said Jodhka, who authored *'Caste in Contemporary India'*.

Congress supporters during the party's Haryana Vijay Sankalp Jansabha | PTI

While the BSP-INLD alliance and the tie-up between the Jannayak Janta Party (JJP) and the Aazad Samaj Party are in the fray, Jodhka said that it is unlikely that any of the Dalit parties winning any seats.

"Cast is a relevant variable, but first of all, Dalit is not a sociological category. As such, there is no Dalit identity politics in Haryana. Most of the Dalit politics evolved out of some kind of a conflict scenario. And that conflict scenario is always with the locally dominant caste," said Jodhka, pointing out that Chamars and Valmikis make up a significant percentage of the SC population in the state.

The BJP is leaving no stone unturned to woo back the Dalits to its fold. In its manifesto, the party promised a full scholarship to OBC/SC students studying medicine and engineering at any government college in India. The Congress promise, on the other hand, includes conducting a caste survey and increasing the OBC creamy layer. The BJP is also hoping that the Kumari Selja factor will dent the prospects of Congress among the Dalit voters.

The Supreme Court's recent verdict allowing states to classify SCs/STs has only exacerbated the division among the communities, says Ashok Bharti, chief of the National Confederation of Dalit Organisations.

Though the state government has implemented sub-classification much before the SC order, no quotas have been filled accordingly, said Bharti. "They are just trying to divide the Dalit community so that they can divert the attention from filling the quota or filling the backlog quota," he said, pointing out that main political parties are silent on the issue.

Priyanka roots for Phogat

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday addressed a public meeting in Haryana's Julana in support of party candidate and Olympic wrestler Vinesh Phogat. "Vinesh's struggle was not of one person, it was for everyone," she said.

Ram Rahim out on parole

Dera Sacha Sauda chief and rape convict Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh was on Wednesday granted a 20-day parole, though he has been barred from taking part in election-related activities, making speeches and staying in the state.

'Hormonal contraceptives can cause many problems'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THE physician should assess the benefit and risk ratio of the person taking it... The issue was discussed and the consensus is that there should be some bar," the source said. The panel also relied on available evidence along with recommendations from the World Health Organization (WHO) and American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Significantly, the WHO and most countries are in favour of the ECP being available over the counter.

Speaking to this newspaper, M N Sridhar said the expert subcommittee will also take legal opinions before submitting its recommendations to CDSCO. "We are concerned about the health of the women. There will be no restriction in accessing the drugs but they can get it after consulting the doctor," Sridhar said. However, gynaecologists are divided on the issue. While Dr T Ramani Devi, president of Tamil Nadu Federation of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, welcomed a ban on OTC sales of ECPs, senior gynaecologist and obstetrician Dr A Jaishree Gajaraj differed.

According to Dr Ramani Devi, hormonal contraceptives can cause many problems, including pulmonary embolism, nausea, and irregular bleeding. For women with gynaecological problems, these drugs contraceptives can aggravate the condition, she said. "The doctor can check the contraindications and prescribe," she added.

Dr Jaishree Gajaraj, while welcoming a ban on OTC sale of other hormonal contraceptives, stressed that ECPs should be available without prescription. "Many women will be unable to consult a doctor in a timely manner. Making it a prescribed drug will lead to more illegal abortions and unwanted pregnancies," she cautioned. "Instead, women can be advised to consult a gynaecologist within three days of taking the ECP," she suggested.

Chennai-based reproductive rights activist Archanaa Sekar said a ban on OTC sale of ECPs will be a huge setback to reproductive and sexual health rights of women. "The government should look into why misuse and overuse of contraceptives are occurring rather than contemplating something like this. Not many will have access to doctors to get prescriptions. They may also struggle to pay consultation fees for the doctors. There will be several practical difficulties," she added.

Drone survey must to monitor progress of NHs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

TO keep a tab on development of national highway projects and their time-bound execution, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has mandated monthly aerial surveys of the sites using drones.

Periodic capturing of high-resolution imagery of projects under Operation and Maintenance category will also be done after every six months.

"With the objective of bringing transparency, uniformity and the use of latest technology, it has been made mandatory to capture high resolution imagery of the entire ROW (right of way) through drones, which would show the progress of the projects and the condition of the roads," said officials.

The NHAI has already empanelled drone service providers for the video recording and also revised its standard operating procedure for this.

According to an NHAI circular, the survey should be completed in the last week of every month to prepare the monthly progress report. The project directors or regional officers can undertake need-based drone surveys of the project, it said.

SARPANCH TAKES BRIBE

A woman sarpanch from Gondia district in Maharashtra was nabbed by Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) for allegedly accepting a Rs 5,000 bribe for releasing the honorarium of a Gram Panchayat worker, officials said.

3 GIRLS

GIRLS AMONG 4 DROWN IN TWO DISTRICTS

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	42	27	Mumbai	35	29
Bhopal	43	28	Panaji	32	28
Jaipur	41	30	Patna	41	27
Amritsar	40	23	Lucknow	42	27
Chennai	39	30	Port Blair	34	28
Kolkata	36	26	Imphal	23	18
Srinagar	18	08	Chandigarh	42	23

Modi says battle is not for power, but to protect 'roti, mati & beti'

Says JMM, Cong playing with J'khand's security by creating new vote bank in Santhal Pargana

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi said that the battle in Jharkhand is not for power; but, it is a battle to protect 'Roti-Beti-Mati' (Bread, Daughters and the motherland). While addressing the concluding ceremony of the BJP's Parivartan Yatra at Hazaribagh on Wednesday, Modi claimed that JMM and Congress are playing with the security of Jharkhand as well as the country by creating new vote bank for them in Santhal Pargana.

According to Modi, the 'Parivartan Yatra' that was completed on Wednesday, will prove to be the beginning of a new dawn for Jharkhand. They have only one slogan – Roti, Beti and Maati' and for this, they will bring about change here, he said.

Modi also informed that a pledge has been taken to protect Roti-Mati-Beti during this Yatra. "The battle in Jharkhand is not to secure power, but the battle here is to protect Roti-Mati-Beti," said Modi. When BJP government is formed soon after the Assembly polls in Jharkhand; it will be ensured that the security of Roti-Beti-Mati is well taken care of, he added.

Making a scathing attack on Hemant Soren-led government in Jharkhand; Modi said that JMM wants to save itself by making false promises. Those who snatched your rights for 5 years are misleading you by making big promises, he said. "You have to be alert from those who are running the '*jhooth ki dukan*' (shop of lies). I just want to ask JMM people that before serving new '*jalebies*' of lies to the people of Jharkhand.... give an account of the old promises," said the Prime Minister. They had promised unemployment allowance to the youth, stove allowance to the women, financial assistance to the widow and ₹51,000 to the girls at the time their marriage. Were those promises were fulfilled by the JMM government?, he asked.

Targeting JMM and Congress, Modi further added that they never allowed the tribals to progress. "Therefore, to remain in power, these people are creating a new vote bank in Jharkhand. Santhal Pargana is the live example of how dangerous is this game of vote bank is? The tribal population in Santhal Pargana is continuously decreasing, while the population of infiltrators is continuously increasing, said Modi. The increasing population of infiltrators and decreasing number of tribal society... all this is the result of JMM and Congress's hunger for power, he added.

Modi said that the Jharkhand High Court has also expressed concern over decreasing population of tribals in Santhal Pargana, but the JMM government is denying it by filing an affidavit. JMM and Congress are playing with the security of Jharkhand as well as the country, he said.

Modi also alleged that Congress tried to remove the identity of the tribals to give identity to one family. All the schemes, all the roads are in the name of one family, which has done a lot of harm to the country, he said. Referring to the recent incidents of paper leaks in Jharkhand, the PM said, "Gangs that leak papers are operating here under the protection of the state government. The rights of the youth here are being violated by selling each paper for several lakh of rupees. Entire government is steeped in corruption."

Jan Suraaj will contest all seats in Bihar, PK vows to end liquor ban

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

POLITICAL strategist-turned-activist Prashant Kishor on Wednesday launched his political outfit—Jan Suraaj Party—in the state capital and appointed an IITian and retired Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, Manoj Bharti, as its first working president.

Bharti, a native of Madhubani district in north Bihar, had earlier served as India's ambassador to countries like Ukraine, Belarus, Timor-Leste and Indonesia. He will serve as the party's working president until the organisational elections are held in March.

Addressing a gathering at the veterinary college ground, Kishor said that the Jan Suraaj Party would end prohibition within an hour of its state government formation. "If elected, we will abolish prohibition within an hour," he reaffirmed. The revenue collected after end of prohibition would be spent on providing quality education to the children.

Taking a dig at poor quality of education, Kishor said that while government schools were providing 'khichri' (mid-day meal) to students, colleges in the state were distributing degrees only." The state would require around ₹5 lakh crore in the next decade to improve the quality of education.

The state is losing around ₹20,000 crore per annum due to imposition of prohibition. He added that the money collected from liquor sales will not go to the state's budget but spent on developing education infrastructure.

While children between the ages of 0 and 15 years will benefit from the new education system, the people in the age group of 15-50 years will be made eligible to earn between ₹10,000 and ₹12,000 per month. Jan Suraaj will exert pressure on banks to provide loans to such people, he said.

MUMBAI DIARY

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI
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All MVA allies eye the chief minister post

In the upcoming state elections, the Congress is not only seeing an opportunity to come back to power by winning around 70-to-80 seats, but also expecting to get the chief ministerial post as the single-largest party. Therefore, many leaders in the Congress have started dreaming of getting the coveted post and begun taking steps in that direction as well. On the other hand, Sharad Pawar, who has been tight-lipped about the chief ministerial face, has been holding his card close to his chest till the election results are out. Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray is also eyeing to get the post back as a poetic justice.

MahaYuti govt leaves no stone unturned

The MahaYuti government is leaving no stone unturned to come back in power. While only a few of days remain before the assembly elections and the code of conduct are announced, the Mantralaya has been witnessing quite a rush to take decisions. They are preparing to pass the decisions in the cabinet, issue a GR, then push for tender and work order as well. Currently, the bureaucrats have been overloaded with work and their tables have been full of files. Sources reveal that many of these officers have also been working late at night by burning their midnight oil.

Uddhav, Pawar struggle to get candidates

Former union minister Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) are struggling to get the right candidates for the assembly elections. They are not only asking for seats from the Congress, but also demanding candidates. In the Lok Sabha elections, Pawar poached a couple of Congress candidates using the same tactics he is using in assembly elections. Thackeray -led Shiv Sena has also been in a fix, unable to get candidates for state polls. Most of these potential candidates are already poached by CM Eknath Shinde, therefore he has turned towrds Congress for help. This has put the party in an opaque situation.

MAHARASHTRA

Deora: Maha has best AICC in-charge in Chennithala

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA Congress in-charge Ramesh Chennithala has done a commendable work by not only putting the divided house in order in the state, but also ensuring that all the party factions worked together, Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP Milind Deora said recently. He was speaking at the recent Mumbai Dialogue organized by this newspaper.

Terming Chennithala the "best in charge" for the Maharashtra Congress, Deora — the former union minister for state in the Congress-led government and currently a Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP — said the grand old party has got an excellent leader after a long time. "I have no hesitation in saying that Ramesh ji is one of the best in charge that Maharashtra Congress has had recently. He not only put the divided house in order in the state, but also ensured all factions worked together," Deora said, adding he is very pleased with the Shiv Sena under the leadership of Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde.

Refusing to delve into reasons that compelled him to quit, he said that's past, now let's look forward.

"I am a pakka Mumbaikar and the chief minister is undertaking many infrastructure projects to develop the financial capital. We are getting a metro and its network will expand by the year. Besides, the work on the coastal road has also been completed, while the Atal Setu has opened new avenues for the Navi Mumbai people. Mumbai as a financial city is getting better," Deora claimed.

Also participating in the event was Ramesh Chennithala, who reciprocated to the praises showered on him by saying that he shared a close bond with the Deora family. Milind, he said, was like his younger brother and expressed confidence of his younger brother (Milind) returning and reuniting with the Congress family because the Congress party is the future, and in Maharashtra also, they will be romping back to power.

Deora, who had held key positions like the Minister of State for Communications & IT quit Congress in January and joined Shiv Sena (Eknath Shinde).

DECIDE

Shinde, Ajit meet Shah to firm up MahaYuti seat deal

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

IN their meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Maharashtra chief minister Eknath Shinde and deputy CM Ajit Pawar sought more seats for their parties in assembly elections, saying the Lok Sabha poll results should be the basis for MahaYuti seat-sharing formula.

At the meeting held here on Tuesday night, Shinde insisted that merit be the sole criteria while allocating seats to alliance partners and giving ticket to candidates, sources said.

"CM Shine also presented the strength of his party and its better performance in the Lok Sabha elections despite contesting less number of seats than the BJP. Shiv Sena should be given more seats if MahaYuti wants to come back to power. Shinde is asking for over 100 seats in upcoming assembly elections; however, BJP is ready to concede 70 to 80 seats," a senior Shiv Sena (Shinde) leader said, requesting anonymity.

In the Lok Sabha polls, Shinde Sena won seven out of 15 seats while the BJP won nine seats out of 28. Maharashtra assembly polls are likely to be held in November.

In the meeting, Shinde requested Shah that there should not be delay in seat sharing and fielding candidates, saying the mistakes committed during Lok Sabha polls should be avoided. "In the Lok Sabha elections, BJP used a survey report to deny seats to Shiv Sena. This should not happen in assembly elections. Shiv Sena is in a stronger position under the leadership of Shinde, so more seats to the party will bolster MahaYuti performance in assembly polls," another Sena leader said.

Ajit Pawar and NCP state president Sunil Tatkare demanded at least 55 to 60 seats in assembly elections, sources said. "NCP has 40 sitting MLAs and is in stronger position in more than 15 seats. Therefore, an honourable seat-sharing formula should be worked out in the larger interest of the alliance," an NCP leader said, wishing not to be named. "Like Lok Sabha elections, if fewer seats are given to the NCP, it will send a wrong message to the party cadre and many leaders may join the Sharad Pawar-led NCP. This could happen ahead of the state polls," the leader said.

EXPRESS READ

Gujarat BJP, Cong in war of words over Navratri fest

Ahmedabad: The ongoing controversy between the BJP and Congress over Navratri celebrations has now escalated to the national level, reaching the Prime Minister's Office. Congress MLA Kirit Patel has written a formal complaint to Prime Minister Modi, alleging that Gujarat's Education Minister, Rishikesh Patel, is obstructing the Navratri festivities, despite prior approval for the event.

Delhi's biggest haul: Drugs worth ₹5,800 cr seized

UJWAL JALALI @ New Delhi

THE Special Cell of the Delhi Police busted an international drug cartel and seized contraband worth ₹5,820 crore in what is billed as the biggest haul in the national capital.

While the kingpin of the cartel is said to be in Dubai, the police have arrested four local players — Tushar Goyal, Himanshu Kumar, Aurangzeb Siddiqui and Bharat Jain.

Additional Commissioner of Police (Special Cell) Pramod Singh Kushwah said the Intelligence Agency of the Central government received information that a cartel based in Delhi is smuggling cocaine from abroad. On October 1, the Special Cell received specific information about the arrival of a large consignment of drugs at a warehouse belonging to Goyal at Mahipalpur in Delhi.

A Special Cell team raided the warehouse during which 560 kg of cocaine and 40 kg of hydroponic marijuana were seized. Tushar is the main receiver and distributor of the drugs, the police said. Kumar and Siddiqui are his associates.

The accused told the police that the seized marijuana is from Phuket in Thailand while cocaine originated in South American and West Asian countries.

Thousands join doctors' mega rally seeking justice for RG Kar victim

SULAGNA SENGUPTA @ Kolkata

THE Bengal Junior Doctors' Front took out a mega rally in Kolkata on Wednesday, demanding justice for the doctor who was raped and murdered in the state-run R G Kar Medical College and Hospital.

Their demands focus on improved safety measures for hospital staff, an issue that has ignited widespread protests. They also protested against the culture of fear and intimidation within the state's medical system. The rally, held on Mahalaya marking the beginning of Devi Paksha, saw participation of thousands including cultural personalities and common people. "We are not in a 'Puja' or 'Utsav' mood, and we will continue protesting on the streets for Abhaya's justice as long as our sister doesn't get justice. Our movement will not stop until justice is served," a protester in the rally said.

The participants of the non-political rally carried national flags, placards with pictures of freedom fighters, and shouted slogans calling for justice.

At the end of the rally, actor Sohini said, "We have seen how we were bullied on social media when all the women called for 'reclaiming the night'. Women have been targeted in every sphere." The junior doctors said nothing could stop them from their holding protests. "The Supreme Court should also see that we are not going to bow down under any pressure and will continue our casework if the situation demands," a doctor said. Aniket Mahato, one of the protesting junior doctors, expressed disappointment with the state government's inaction. "Today is the 52nd day of our protest, and we are still facing attacks. There is no positive response from the state government toward meeting our safety and security demands," he said. Mahato said the worsening situation had left them with no alternative but to resume the strike.

Rumble as Punjab CM's core team disintegrates

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

PUNJAB Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's trusted core appears to be disintegrating. But the big question is: is the CM slowly losing his utility for the Aam Aadmi Party?

Take Navneet Wadhwa, director of communications at the Chief Minister's Office. He put in his papers after he was told that his contract will not be renewed.

A few days ago, Onkar Singh, Officer on Special Duty to the CM, quit. Singh was considered close to Mann and was in-charge of his Dhuri constituency. His exit came as a surprise as he was also handling the political programmes of Mann's spouse Dr Gurpreet Kaur.

The axe is expected to fall on one more important official, say sources. Besides, five new faces were inducted into the Mann ministry recently while four ministers were dropped, two of whom — Chetan Singh Jouramajra and Anmol Gagan Maan — were considered close to the CM.

When Mann recently fell down at the Chandigarh airport after de-boarding from a chartered plane, the Opposition Congress and the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) took another pot shot at his failure to stay sober during work hours. But the AAP leadership chose not to defend him.

Mann was later admitted to Fortis Hopsital in Mohali where he was dignosed with leptospirosis. Among those who called on him at the hospital were Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema, Education Minister Harjot Singh Bains, Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan and Congress MLA Pargat Singh. In May, SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal had predicted an AAP split in the state, which could have been a shot in the dark. But clouds of uncertainty persist in the political landscape of Punjab though the Southwest monsoon has withdrawn.

700,000
People are now displaced from their homes in Haiti, more than half of whom are children

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	22	8	SNY	Los Angeles	33	17	SNY
Colombo	32	27	SNY	Melbourne	25	9	SNY
Dhaka	31	26	LR	Moscow	22	9	SNY
Dubai	35	31	SNY	New York	22	15	SNY
Houston	33	22	SNY	Singapore	31	26	LR
Istanbul	23	17	SNY	Toronto	22	13	SNY
London	16	8	SNY	Washington	18	10	SNY

An Israeli mobile artillery unit fires a shell from northern Israel towards Lebanon on Wednesday | AP

EIGHT ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED IN LEBANON GROUND INCURSION

Another seven soldiers were wounded; 51 killed in Gaza, Palestinian medical officals report

DEIR-AL BALAH

ISRAEL's ground incursion into Lebanon to battle Hezbollah militants left eight Israeli soldiers dead on Wednesday, while the region braced for further escalation as Israel vowed to retaliate for Iran's ballistic missile attack a day earlier.

The Israeli military said seven soldiers were killed in two separate attacks, without elaborating. The assaults were among the deadliest against Israeli forces in months.

Another seven troops, including a combat medic, were wounded. Earlier, the military had announced that a 22-year-old captain in a commando brigade was killed in Lebanon, the first Israeli combat death since the start of the incursion.

The announcements came on the eve of Rosh Hashana, the Jewish new year.

In Gaza, where the nearly yearlong war that triggered the widening conflict rages on with no end in sight, Israeli ground and air operations in a hard-hit city killed at least 51 people, including women and children, Palestinian medical officials said.

Three young Swedes were arrested on Wednesday in connection with two predawn explosions that occurred in the vicinity of the Israeli Embassy in Copenhagen, prompting a nearby Jewish school to close for the day. Police said no one was injured.

"Our investigation shows that the blasts likely were caused by hand grenades," said Jens Jespersen, a spokesperson for the Copenhagen police, adding that it was unclear whether the Israeli Embassy was the target. The blasts occurred around 3.20 am.

He said the explosions were about 100 metres from the embassy, which is located in an area with other embassies. It caused damage to another building, he added.

Swedish police said the Israeli embassy in Stockholm had been targeted in a shooting on Tuesday just before 6 pm.

The suspects were aged between 15 and 20, he said.

Hezbollah said its fighters clashed with Israeli troops in two places inside Lebanon near the border. The Israeli military said ground forces backed by airstrikes had killed militants in 'close-range engagements' without saying where.

Israeli media reported infantry and tank units operating in southern Lebanon after the military sent thousands of additional troops and artillery to the border.

Hezbollah said its fighters wounded and killed a group of Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon after detonating an explosive device, but the militants did not elaborate on the number of dead and wounded.

The Lebanese army said Israeli forces advanced some 400 metres (yards) across the border and withdrew 'after a short period,' its first confirmation of the incursion.

The Israeli military has warned people in and around 50 villages and towns to evacuate. Israel has said it will continue to strike Hezbollah until it is safe for tens of thousands of its citizens displaced from homes near the Lebanon border to return.

Hezbollah has vowed to keep firing rockets into Israel until there is a ceasefire in Gaza with Hamas. Israeli strikes have killed over 1,000 people in Lebanon over the past two weeks.

Hamas claimed responsibility on Wednesday for a shooting and stabbing attack that killed seven people in Israeli commercial hub Tel Aviv the previous day.

"The Ezzedine Al-Qassam Brigades takes responsibility for the heroic Jaffa operation carried out by the fighters from the (occupied West Bank) city of Hebron," the group said in a statement, referring to the attack that took place near the Tel Aviv light rail station in Jaffa on Tuesday.

Meanwhile the Israeli army said several missiles fired by Iran hit inside Israeli air force bases but did not cause any casualties or damage, without specifying which bases.

"During the Iranian attack yesterday (Tuesday), several missiles fell within Israeli air force bases. No offensive infrastructure or capabilities located on IAF (Israel Air Force) bases were damaged," the military said, adding that no casualties or damage to aircraft were reported. Israel's army chief said that Iran had fired about 200 missiles. *Agencies*

PROTECTIVE SHIELD

Iron Dome offers short-range protection against missiles, rockets. Its counterparts David's Sling, Arrow missiles aid to halt ballistic missiles

IRON DOME
Thousands of rockets fired by Hezbollah and Hamas have been intercepted by Iron Dome since it entered service in 2011. Developer Rafael says the system can stop up to 90% of incoming projectiles. Iron Dome can bring down rockets and missiles over a range of 70 kilometres

DAVID'S SLING
Named after the Biblical character, the second layer of Israel's defence targets long-range rockets and cruise missiles at ranges of between 40 and 300 kilometres

Each launcher holds up to 12 missiles designed to destroy targets by colliding with them

ARROW
Arrow II and III were developed jointly by US-based Boeing and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI). Arrow II, whose first successful interception test came in August 2020, has a range of up to 500 km. With a range estimated at 2,400 km, Arrow III goes further by targeting incoming ballistic missiles outside Earth's atmosphere, more than 100 km above the surface. Both were fired on Tuesday

WAR WATCH
ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 362

TOLL SO FAR
43,494

Focus of veepee debate on top of the ticket

NEW YORK

TIM Walz and JD Vance on Tuesday each pointed to the crises of the day as reasons for voters to choose their respective running mates for president, opening their vice-presidential debate by addressing the growing fears of a regional war in the Middle East and a natural disaster that has ravaged the southeastern US.

Walz, answering a question on whether he would support a preemptive strike on Iran as it launched missiles into Israel, quickly pivoted to painting Donald Trump as too dangerous for the country and the world in an unstable moment.

"What's fundamental here is that steady leadership is going to matter," said Walz, the Democratic governor of Minnesota. "And the world saw it on that debate stage a few weeks ago, a nearly 80-year-old Donald Trump talking about crowd sizes is not what we need in this moment." Vance, in his reply, argued that Trump is an intimidating figure whose presence on the international stage is its own deterrent. "Donald Trump actually delivered stability," he said.

Both men found unity on Hurricane Helene, which has devastated several states and caused massive flooding in North Carolina in particular. Walz mentioned the storm's devastation and talked about working with governors across the country, saying they don't let politics get in the way of collaborating.

Vance said, "I'm sure Governor Walz joins me in saying our hearts go out to those innocent people." Tuesday's matchup could have an outsized impact.

Polls have shown Vice-President Kamala Harris and former president Donald Trump locked in a close contest.

The Trump and Harris campaigns have claimed victories in the vice-presidential debate as their running mates. But unlike the presidential debate, this one lacked high-clash moments. *AP/PTI*

Republican VP nominee JD Vance (left) and Democratic VP candidate Tim Walz during the debate on Tuesday in New York | AP

Ukraine withdraws from Vugledar, giving Russia major territorial gain

KYIV

UKRAINE's army said on Wednesday that it had withdrawn from the eastern town of Vugledar, handing Russia one of its most significant territorial gains in weeks.

The fall of the coal mining town raised new questions about Ukraine's defensive positions along its southeastern front line as Russia forces advance ahead of winter.

Around 14,000 people lived in Vugledar before Russia invaded, making it one of Moscow's more important gains in months of grinding advances across the east.

"The High Command gave permission for a manoeuvre to withdraw units from Vugledar in order to save personnel and military equipment and take up a position for further operations," Ukraine's Khortytsia group of troops, which operates in the area, posted on Telegram.

The unit said it had inflicted heavy losses on Russian forces but relentless attacks meant "there was a threat of encirclement", forcing it to withdraw.

Vugledar is about 50 km southwest of Donetsk city, the capital of a region Russia claims to have annexed.

Moscow's forces have been trying to capture the town since the first weeks of its invasion, launched in February 2022.

There has been particularly bloody fighting for the town throughout the two-and-a-half-year war, and it has been largely flattened by Russian shelling.

Russian military bloggers had posted videos in recent days of troops raising Russian flags at various spots in Vugledar.

The defence ministry in Moscow has not officially claimed control of the town.

In its daily briefing Wednesday it said its forces had captured the small settlement of Verkhnokamyanske further north in the Donetsk region.

Given the military resources dedicated to the town, Vugledar has taken on symbolic importance for both Russia and Ukraine. *AFP*

Reform push includes women's role in church

ROME: Pope Francis opened the second phase of his big Catholic reform project on Wednesday, with widespread calls for women to take up more positions of responsibility in the church topping the agenda but ordained ministry still ruled out. Francis presided over an opening Mass in St Peter's Square with the 368 bishops and laypeople who will meet behind closed doors for the next three weeks to discuss the future of the church and how to make it more responsive to the needs of Catholics today. In his marching orders on Wednesday, Francis urged delegates to leave aside their long-held and self-interested positions and truly listen to one another to 'give life to something new'. AP

ASIA MATTERS

THAILAND

BUS DRIVER ARRESTED, CHARGES FILED

Police on Wednesday said they were investigating whether the school bus fire that killed 23 young students and teachers in suburban Bangkok was caused by negligence after filing initial charges against the driver. The fire on the bus carrying six teachers and 39 elementary and junior high school students on Tuesday spread so quickly many were unable to escape. The driver, Saman Chanput, was arrested several hours later and charged with reckless driving causing deaths and injuries, failing to stop to help others and failing to report the accident, police said. *AFP*

SALOON CAUGHT IN CROSSHAIRS

A hair salon chain is being investigated by the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (CCCS) for suspected unfair trade practices, following a number of complaints lodged over their sales tactics, *CNA* reported. The watchdog said said it had received complaints about the sales tactics practiced here including targeting of elderly.

INDONESIA

GOVT MULLS BAN TO CHINESE APP

The Indonesian government is considering a ban on the Chinese online marketplace, Temu, which facilitates direct transactions between Chinese producers and global consumers, citing concerns it could harm local small and medium enterprises (SMEs), an official said on Wednesday, *Jakarta Globe* reported. If allowed to operate here, Temu could disrupt local distribution channels and flood the market with cheap products shipped directly from China, said Fiki Satari, an advisor to SMEs Minister, adding Temu has penetrated Southeast Asian countries.

Government of Tamil Nadu
Information Technology and Digital Services Department
Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA)

E-TENDER NOTICE

Online tenders are invited by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA), towards **Selection of System Integrator to Design, Develop, Implement and Maintain an end-to-end ERP application for Tamil Nadu Water Supply And Drainage Board (TWAD Board).**

The tender document (RFP) can be downloaded at free of cost from **https://tntenders.gov.in/** from **03.10.2024, 16:00 hrs.**

Pre-bid meeting is scheduled online on **10.10.2024** at **11:30 hrs through video conference (VC)** by TNeGA and the link for the VC can be referred in the RFP.

EMD for an amount of Rs.5,00,000/- has to be paid through online mode. Last date and time for online submission of bids through **https://tntenders.gov.in/** (e-Tender) is **29.10.2024** till **16:00 hrs.** Technical Bid shall be opened online on **29.10.2024** at **16:30 hrs.** Bidders are advised to participate in the pre-bid meeting scheduled by TNeGA.

Chief Executive Officer,
Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency

DIPR/4003/Tender/2024

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
Office of the Additional Chief Engineer
Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur-760004 , e-mail Id: se_sicbam@yahoo.com
A-347 **e-Procurement Notice No. ACE, RBB -04/2024-25**

1. Type of work :- Road work
2. Total No of works :- 02 (Two) No.
3. Amount put to tender :- **Varies from ₹ 507.84 Lakh to ₹ 331.34 Lakh**
4. Period of completion :- 11 (Eleven) calendar months
5. Paper Cost :- **₹ 10000/-** per each
6. Class of Contractor :- 'A' Class of Contractor

Sl. No.	Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Bid Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Availability & Submission of Bid On-line	Date and Place of opening of Technical Bids online
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur	**ACE, RBB (CHID)-04/ 2024-25**	**507.84**	From **04.10.2024**, 10.00 A.M. to **18.10.2024**, 5.00 P.M.	**19.10.2024** (11.30 A. M.) in the office of the Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur.
2		**ACE, RBB (CHID)-05/2024-25**	**331.34**		

Bidders are to participate in online bidding only. Fur ther details can be seen from the Govt. of Odisha e-Procurement Web-site **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**. Any addendum/corrigendum/cancellation of the tender can be seen in the above website only.

OIPR- 32411/11/0006/2425 **Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer, Rushikulya Bahuda Basin, Berhampur.**

Government of Odisha
Office of the Chief Construction Engineer Rural Works Circle, Angul
E-Mail - sencrwangul@yahoo.co.in, Ph: 06764 - 236404
e-Procurement Notice for Road & Bridge work in Odisha /
Bid Identification No. Bridge Online AGL- 10/2024-25

0-325 Dt. 26/09/2024
No.2480 //

1. Name of the work : Road & Bridge work
2. Total No. of work : 01 No.
3. Estimated cost : Rs.731.71 Lakhs
4. Class of Contractor : "A" & Special Class
5. Period of completion : As per Annexure
6. Other details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & time of opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul	Bridge Online-AGL-10/2024-25	05.10.24 at 10.00 A.M	17.10.24 up to 5.00 PM	15.10.24 up to 1.00 P.M	18.10.2024 at 11.00 A.M	Will be intimated separately

(1) For detailed Notice inviting Tenders, Please visit to the website www.tendersorissa.gov.in

OIPR-25180/11/0012/2425 **Sd/- Chief Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul**

IN THE COURT OF THE III ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-25)
F.D.P. No.71/2019

BETWEEN:Smt. Jnanamba P, D/o Late. Paramashivaiah, W/o K.N.Krishnananda, Aged about 46 years, Residing at No. 155, 6th Cross, Vayalikaval Layout, Vijaynagar, Bangalore-560 040 ...Plaintiff

AND:1. Smt. Sarojamma Aged about 71 year, W/o Late. Paramashivaiah

2. Sri. Jnanesh P Aged about 42 years, W/o Late. Paramashivaiah Both are residing at No. 189, 4th C Main, 3rd Stage, 3rd Block, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560 079 **Defendants**

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION SALE OF PROPERTIES

Auction sale of the schedule 'A' & 'B' properties 19/10/24 and 26/10/24, respectively.

As per the orders passed by the Hon'ble City civil judge (CCH-25) Bangalore in FDP.no.71/2019 dated **18/9/24** the 'A' Schedule property will be held in public auction sale on **19/10/24. at 11.00 Am to 5.00 pm** at the premises of the 'A' Schedule property.

Subsequently on **26/10/24.** "B" Schedule property will be held in public auction sale from 11.00 Am to 5.00 pm at the premises of 'B' Schedule property.

Any person or institution interested in participating in the auction sale may do so subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The particulars in the schedule 'A' and 'B' properties are to be the best of the information to the court as furnished by the parties.
2. The Guideline Value of the 'A' Schedule Property is 1.15 crores and The Guideline Value of the 'B' Schedule Property is 1.9 crores.
3. The minimum bid amount for the auction of the Schedule 'A' property shall be 1.3 crores.
4. The minimum bid amount for the Schedule B property shall be 2.25 Cores.
5. The amount by which the biddings are determined by the court commissioner conducting the same, in the event of any dispute arising as to the amount of bid or as the bidding of the property, the Court commissioner shall put up the property for auction again.
6. The auction purchaser shall produce an authenticated identification card (Aadhar card including PAN card) before the commencement of the auction sale to the court commissioner.
7. 25% of the bid amount for Schedule 'A' & Schedule 'B' property shall be separately deposited by the successful bidder by way of DD drawn in favor of the registrar city civil court Bangalore, to the court commissioner immediately after the acceptance of the highest bid.
8. The successful bidder shall deposit the balance amount of the highest bid amount before the court within 15 days from the date of the conclusion of the auction.
9. The successful bidder will be getting the registered sale deed within 60 to 90 days from the date of deposition of money.
10. In case the highest bidder fails to deposit the auction sale amount as per the condition he or she shall be liable to pay damages fixed at 10% of the highest bid amount apart from forfeiting the 10% of the depositing amount.
11. If the highest bidder fails to deposit the amount then the property shall be re-sold after the issue of fresh notification of the same.
12. The sale is subject to confirmation by the Hon'ble City Civil Court.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All the part and parcel of property no 3, situated at Attiguppe Village, Kempapura Agrahara Dakhale, Bangalore City, Ward No. 40, BBMP 29th Division presently Municipal No 8:25, 3rd Main Attiguppe Village measuring East to West 33 feet, North to South 30 feet (Old PID no: 40-108-8/25 New PID No.132-W0161-16) consisting of 8 commercial shops constructed on it and bounded as:
East by: Property no 4 **West by:** Road
North by: Property no 130 of Income Tax Layout
South by: Road

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

All the part and parcel of the property bearing no 8 in Sy no 54, Khaneshumari No. 127/1263, situated at Kottigepalya Village, Srigandadakavalu Dakale, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently city municipal council area, Pattanagere Katha No 124, Ward no 4, Property no. 54/8/1271/1263 Kottigepalya, Bangalore, measuring East to West 50 feet, North to South 40 feet totally 2000 sq. Ft (Old PID No. 117/124/54/1263 & New PID No. 073-W0395-13) 3 floors residential building and bounded **East by:** Nanjappa's property
West by : Road **North by:** Road
South by: Varadaraju's property no 9

Given under hand and the seal of the court, this day of 21/9/2024.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Senior Sheristedar
City Civil Court, Bangalore

H. B. Uday Kumar Advocate.
No.25, Ground Floor, 9th Cross, Opp. Railway parallel road, Kumara Park west, Bengaluru-560020

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client intend to buy plot in 'Rajani Farms Phase-2' bearing site no. 48 measuring East to West 57 feet, North to South 100 feet, in all measuring 5700 square feet, bounded on East by, site no. 49, west by road, North by road, South by site no. 57, Carved out of Survey no. 40/1 and 40/2 both situated at Rayasandra Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanagalli Taluk, duly converted for non agricultural purpose, bearing old khatha no.112/113 and new E khatha no.104/115ST no. 48, E - swathu no. 150300201400123709 issued by Bettakote Gram Panchayat Devanagalli, Bangalore. The sellers namely, Mr. Vinod S Rajani, Mr. Arun Rajani and Mrs. Rajkumari Rajani claims to have clear title, possession and absolute right. Any person or persons having any claim on aforesaid property, by way of ownership, tenancy, tenancy, licencees, sale, mortgage, exchange, gift, inheritance, grant, allotment, lien, maintenance, possession, Givernamen duties, encumbrance, easement rights or otherwise are required to be informed to undersigned namely, E. I. Sanmathi, Advocate within seven days from the date of publication of this public notice. Any claim received after said date shall be deemed to waived or abandoned and sale will be completed without taking any reference to such claim or claims.

Sd/- **E I. Sanmathi,** Advocate,
No.118/1, 3rd floor, 5th main,
Chamrajpet, Bangalore 560010
Mobile: 9845100501, 9886604588.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my clients intend to purchase the Schedule Property from **1) SRI. MAHENDRA JAIN,** S/o. Late. Kapurchand Jain, **2) SMT. RITA M. JAIN,** W/o. Sri.Mahendra Jain Sl No.1 and 2 are Residing at No.1-4/1 Navakar, Deewan Madhav Rao Road Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004 **3) SRI. ARVIND G. HIRANI** S/o. Late Gajaraj Hirani **4) SMT. PUSHPA A HIRANI,** W/o. Arvind G. Hirani, Sl No.3 and 4 R/at No.B101'Aquaia grande CHS Ltd Devidas Lane, Borivali West Mumbai Suburban-400103 along with Developer **M/s. PRAPAD BUILDERS & DEVELOPERS PVT. LTD** Represented by its Managing Director SRI. D. PRASANNA S/o. Late Devaiah.

Any person having any objection regarding the said sale transaction, may contact the undersigned advocate with relevant documents **within 7 days** from the date of this publication failing which it shall be deemed that there is no objection of any nature and my client will complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing Site No.9, formed in Converted land bearing Sy No.25/2 (Old Sy.No.25), vide conversion order bearing No. ALN(E)(KH)SR/176/2008-09, dated 08-10-2009, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Urban District, Bangalore, Situated at Kothanur Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West 50 Feet and North to South 76 Feet , totally measuring 3800 Sq Feet and bounded on as follows:

East by : Site No.8,
West by : Site No.10,
North by : Remaining Portion of Sy.No.25/2
South by : Road

Sd/- **K.R. BHARADWAJ & ASSOCIATES**
Advocates
No.30, 1st Floor, Above Medplus, Sukh Sagar Cross Road, 3rd Cross, 3rd Main K.K. Halli, Bangalore -560084. Ph. 9844011141
E-mail: krblawassociates@gmail.com

QuoteExpress

WITHOUT HARD WORK, NOTHING GROWS BUT WEEDS

GORDON B HINCKLEY

45% rise in institutional investments in real estate to nearly $1.15 billion in July-Sept with investors looking to encash the strong demand for premium homes and offices, according to Colliers.

Sebi regulations for F&O trade and concerns over not-so-robust corporate growth in the upcoming earnings season are also likely to weigh on investors' sentiments

Iran-Israel conflict to weigh on markets; spur crude, gold prices

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Indian equity market is likely to see further pressure in the coming sessions over rising geopolitical tensions after Iran launched an attack on Israel on Tuesday. Further new Sebi regulations for futures and options (F&O) trading and concerns over not-so-robust corporate growth in the upcoming earnings season are expected to weigh on investors' sentiments.

The US market ended lower on Tuesday with the tech-heavy Nasdaq index losing more than 1%. The US stocks began the Wednesday trading session in the red as well. The Nifty has already plunged 480 points in the last five trading sessions - falling from its all-time high of 26,277 to 25,797 at Tuesday's close. On Wednesday, the market was closed due to Gandhi Jayanti. Technical analysts expect further pressure with the Nifty index set to test the 25,600 level on the downside.

Shrikant Chouhan, Head of Equity Research at Kotak Securities, noted that as long as the index remains below 25,910, weak sentiment is likely to persist. He mentioned that the markets could retest the 25,680-25,650 range, with this support level acting as a key trend indicator for bulls.

Rupak De of LKP Securities said that Nifty formed a doji pattern with a long upper shadow on the daily chart, indicating market indecision.

Heavy call writing at 25800 suggests it may act as strong resistance if sustained. Immediate support lies at 25750, a decisive break below this could push index to 25,600/25,500

Rupak De, LKP Securities

"Heavy call writing at 25800 suggests it may act as strong resistance if sustained. Immediate support lies at 25750, and a decisive break below this could push the index to 25,600/25,500. On the higher side, a move above 25,800 may propel Nifty towards 26,050, where sellers could become active again," added De. Christopher Wood, global head of equity strategy at Jefferies, has cut exposure to Indian equities by 1 percentage point on Wednesday. He remains 'overweight' on Indian markets. Wood has raised weight of China by two percentage points.

Wood cited the risk of geopolitical tension in the Middle-East in his latest note, which he sees as the biggest global equity markets. "In case of an escalation of the crisis, all global markets, including India, will be hit badly, which they are not yet prepared for" he said. Prashanth Tapse, Sr VP Research analyst at Mehta Equities said that the ongoing Israel-Iran war and geopolitical tensions always comes with risk to global commodities and crude oil being the global commodities gets impacted on prices through lower economic activity or higher risks to commodity supply.

Crude rises as investors see retaliation from Israel

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

CRUDE oil prices in the international market rose sharply on Wednesday following a missile attack by Iran on Israel. Brent crude futures, which had been trading near $70 a barrel for the past three weeks, rose by 4% to $75.96 a barrel at 4:30 PM IST.

West Texas Intermediate saw a rise of 3.57%, trading at $72.32 a barrel. The major rise in global crude oil prices is driven by investor concerns over potential retaliation by Israel and its impact on global oil supply. Experts believe if tensions escalate further, crude prices could rise significantly in the coming days. Another concern is that Iran borders the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow choke point through which OPEC+ members, including Saudi Arabia and the UAE, export energy. There is a chance of disrupting shipping through the strait if the conflict escalates.

"Crude prices have risen owing to increase in geo-political risk premium as Israel may retaliate against Iran which may snowball into a larger conflict affecting other crude producers and important trade routes such as Strait of Hormuz. However, it is difficult to predict as to how this conflict pans out and accordingly the eventual impact on crude prices," said Prashant Vasisht, VP & co-head, corporate ratings, ICRA.

Crude prices have risen owing to increase in geo-political risk premium as Israel may retaliate against Iran which may snowball into a larger conflict affecting other crude producers

Prashant Vasisht, VP & co-head, corporate ratings, ICRA

The attack on Israel was reportedly in response to the killing of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the powerful leader of Lebanon's militant group Hezbollah. Iran, a member of the OPEC+ group, is one of the world's top oil producers, with data showing it produced over 3.3 million barrels per day in August—the highest output in five years, as per the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). The country exports about half of its production, which represents nearly 2% of global supply.

Hope of rate cut this yr dashed

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

WHILE the September 17 historic rate cut by the US Fed spawned a flicker of hope back home here that the Reserve Bank would at least tone down its strident policy stance, what happened in Israel on Tuesday night has completely put that little flicker out given the scale of escalation in the world's most volatile region that's also is the fuel capital of the world, and the way crude prices reacted -- over 5% jump immediately after the newsbreak and another 3% on Wednesday, taking the Brent past $74/barrel.

To be sure, nobody was expecting a rate cut on October 9 under the just-reconstituted. Many were of the view after the last policy wherein for the ninth time, the rates unchanged at 6.5%, the Reserve Bank may begin to tango with the rest of the world from the December policy or latest by February

Impact of forex reserves

Ongoing geopolitical uncertainties and energy price volatility will not have much repercussions. Given sufficient reserves, the instantaneous repercussions will be negligible

Crypto market: Bitcoin falls to $60,000 level

ENS ECONONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

THE rising geopolitical tensions have impacted the cryptocurrency market as Bitcoin fell below $61,000 on Wednesday, which is nearly a 4% decrease over 24 hours.

The recent decline in Bitcoin, dropping to $61,000 after reaching $64,000, alongside dips in the S&P and Nasdaq, reflects a broader market reaction to escalating geopolitical tensions between Iran and Israel, said Edul Patel, CEO of Mudrex. He said market volatility in response to such conflicts is not unusual, as uncertainty often prompts investors to adopt a risk-off approach, moving away from riskier assets like cryptos and equities.

LOGGING

Hospitality sector witnesses rise in demand

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THE hospitality sector is currently on an upcycle, driven by favourable demographics, robust domestic demand with supply lagging behind demand despite international tourist inflows fell, rising investments and ongoing improvements in infrastructure and connectivity, helping the close the fiscal with 8-9% growth in average revenue per room, on the back of a 14% growth last fiscal.

There are about 1,66,000 branded hotel keys and the over the next five years, the industry is expected to add 55,000 keys more, logging in an annualised growth rate of 4.5-5.5% this period.

According to a Careedge estimate, the industry's revenue per available room (RevPAR) grew 14% in fiscal 2024 and the same is expected to clip at 8-9% this fiscal.

According to the agency, the segment mix is shifting towards upper midscale and midscale economy, with over 60% of the new supply are expected to be added in these segments.This segmental growth is driven by several factors, including a growing middle-class, a significant uptick in business travel, especially from small and medium enterprises, and an expanding scope of business activities small towns.

Govt to launch PM Internship scheme on October 3

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

IN a bid to enhance youth employability and skill development, the government, in partnership with India Inc, will launch a one-year internship program for individuals aged 21 to 24 on October 3.

This initiative, part of the Prime Minister's Package for Employment and Skilling, was first introduced in the Budget and will provide opportunities at the top 500 companies. On the same day, the internship portal will be launched, allowing candidates to apply directly. Companies will upload their internship positions, and candidates will be able to submit applications starting October 12.

Skill training scheme

PM Internship Scheme is part of the initiative to provide skill training to over one crore youth in India over the next 5 years, with a budget of ₹2 trillion. Interns will receive ₹4,500 per month

The scheme is part of the initiative to provide skill training to over one crore youth in India over the next 5 years, with a budget of ₹2 trillion. The programme aims to improve employability of young individuals, especially those with limited access to higher education or specialised training. Interns will receive ₹4,500 per month via direct benefit transfer (DBT), while companies will add ₹500 from their corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds. Eligible companies have been chosen based on their average CSR spending over the past 3 years. Participants are required to spend a six months in a real-world work environment to gain practical experience, going beyond classroom learning. Companies have the option to partner with their supply chain associates or other institutions to enhance internship experience.

For availing benefit of the scheme, candidates must be between ages of 21 and 24 and can't be in full-time employment. Individuals from families with government employees are not eligible to participate. Those who have graduated from prestigious institutions like the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER), or hold qualifications like Chartered Accountant (CA) or Cost and Management Accountant (CMA) are also excluded.

EXPRESS READ

Govt mulls scheme for 'made in India' label

New Delhi: The government is discussing a proposal to formulate a scheme for the 'made in India' label with a view to promote brand India in the global markets, an official said. The official said that a high-level committee is examining the details of the scheme. *ENS*

Air India introduces new policy for cabin crew

New Delhi: Air India is introducing a revised policy for cabin crew members of domestic and international flights, wherein certain sections of the members will have to share rooms during layovers. Revised policy will not be applicable for AI Express. *PTI*

Anil Ambani-led Reliance group forays into renewable energy sector in Bhutan

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ANIL Ambani-led Reliance Group on Wednesday entered into a strategic partnership agreement with Druk Holding and Investments Ltd (DHI), the commercial and investment arm of the Royal Government of Bhutan, to foray into the renewable and green energy landscape of Bhutan.

In a press statement, Reliance Group said its partnership with Druk Holding will focus on green energy generation, specifically solar and hydropower initiatives, while also exploring innovative green technologies.

Reliance Group will collaborate with government-owned companies in Bhutan to implement infrastructure projects that support Bhutan's net-zero goals.

Reliance Group has announced formation of a new flagship company, Reliance Enterprises, dedicated exclusively to promoting investment in Bhutan's renewable and green energy sector. Jointly promoted by Reliance Infrastructure Ltd and Reliance Power Ltd, Reliance Enterprises will focus on enhancing sustainable energy solutions and implementing smart distribution and metering systems throughout Bhutan.

This initiative underscores Reliance Group's long-term commitment to Bhutan and its renewable energy landscape

Reliance Anil Ambani Group

Gen Z emerging as the most disengaged group

ENS ECONOMIC BUREA @ Bengaluru

DISENGAGEMENT in the workplace is widespread across all generations, with Gen Z (born between 1996-2015) emerging as most disengaged group at 34%, followed by Gen Y millennials (1977-1995) at 31% and Baby Boomers at 30% (1946-1964), as per a survey conducted by CIEL HR Services. This shows employers have to overcome the significant challenge at the workplace.

The survey finds 30% of the workforce is not engaged. It said five generations of workers make up today's workforce, and each generation has their own unique view of what work and workspace should be.

Ensuring employees from different generations are engaged is a top priority for many organisations. While over 41% of Gen X (1965-1976) respondents need a positive work culture to stay motivated on a job, having a positive work culture and mission and values alignment are important for Baby Boomers. For Gen Y too, positive work culture is the most crucial motivational factor with 44% Gen Y respondents voting for it. For them, work-life balance comes next in the priority list. Gen Z is divided with varied factors such as positive work culture (30%), work-life balance (29%) and career growth opportunities (27%).

Aditya Narayan Mishra, MD & CEO at CIEL HR Services, said, "The gap between employee aspirations and what workplaces offer is widening. Socio-economic changes are making employees more discerning, and their disenchantment is higher than ever."

REC Limited signs MoU with Government of Rajasthan for ₹3 lakh crore

REC Limited, a Maharatna CPSE under Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has signed MoU with Govt of Rajasthan, Department of Finance during the "Rising Rajasthan Investors meet" today. As per MoU, REC will provide ₹50,000 Crore annually (increased from ₹20,000 Crore) to finance projects across power and non-power infrastructure for a period of six years upto 2030 i.e. total value of MoU is ₹3 lakh crore. The MoU was signed in the presence of Chief Minister of Rajasthan Bhajan Lal Sharma; Col Rajyavardhan Rathore, Minister for Industries & commerce, GoR; Sudhansh Pant, Chief Secretary, GoR. The MoU was exchanged by Shri Rahul Dwivedi, ED (PMD and I&L) REC and Shri Debasish Prusty, Secretary to GoR. On 10th March 2024, MoU was signed in Jaipur between REC and Govt of Rajasthan to finance ₹20,000 Crore annually till 2030.

Business & Beyond

NGEL signs MoU with Rajasthan govt for development of 25 GW of RE Projects

On the occasion of Rising Rajasthan Investor Meet at New Delhi, NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of NTPC Ltd, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Govt of Rajasthan on 30th September 2024 for development of 25 GW of Renewable Energy Projects in the state of Rajasthan. The MoU was exchanged between Shri K S Sundaram, Director (Projects), NGEL and Shri Alok, (IAS) ACS (Energy) in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Rajasthan. Senior officials from Government of Rajasthan and NGEL were also present on the occasion.

CII organises maiden edition of CII MSME FinFest 2024 at Jharsuguda

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organised its Maiden Edition of CII MSME FinFest 2024 at Jharsuguda. The First Edition CII MSME FinFest 2024 focused on the overarching theme of 'Empowering MSMEs: Access to Credit", a credit linkage program for MSMEs aimed to bridge the gap between MSMEs and financial institutions, ensuring easier access to credit and financial services. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Pradipta Mohanty, Chairman, CII Odisha State Council and Chairman, SNM Group said: "CII have been working towards creating and sustaining an environment which is conducive to the growth of industry in the state, partnering industry and government alike through advisory and consultative processes.

Office space leasing hits record in Jan-Sept period

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

GROSS leasing activity in Q3 touched 19.89 million square feet (msqft) up 8.2% quarter-on-quarter, making it the second best quarter, taking total area leased out so far this year to 53.43 mn sq.ft. If the trend is maintained, which looks more likely than not, the market is on course to cross the 70 mnsq.ft by December.

The best quarter ever for the market was the December 2023, as per a report industry tracker JLL, which attributed the robust growth to demand from flexi workspace segment and global capability centres (GCCs). Interestingly, both quarters with the highest gross leasing numbers have been recorded in the post-Covid period.

Flex has become the highest contributor to quarterly gross leasing for the first time, with a 22 percent share even as GCCs remain the dominant occupier group, driving 36.2% of all leasing activity. As a result, global occupiers continue to drive the market with a 56.8% share, JLL said Wednesday. From a city point of view, Bengaluru continues to lead with a 24.6% share of leasing, followed by Delhi NCR with a 23.1%. Mumbai and Hyderabad had 15.6 percent and 14.9%, respectively.

Babar resigns as Pak white-ball captain

Babar Azam has tendered his resignation for the second time as Pakistan's captain with Mohammad Rizwan likely to replace him in limited-overs. Babar posted on X (formerly Twitter) around midnight on Wednesday announcing he had informed the PCB and team management about his desire to quit sometime last month.

NEXT-GEN READY FOR BIG STAGE

Several U19 stars will be hoping to light up the stage in Women's T20 WC which begins today

KALYANI MANGALE @Chennai

IT has been over a year and a half since the inaugural U19 Women's T20 World Cup in South Africa. Of the ten sides that will compete in the senior T20 WC, which begins in the United Arab Emirates on Thursday, only Australia will have no representation from the U19 WC or have given any debut to players from their junior WC squad. From New Zealand's Izzy Gaze to Bangladesh's Marufa Akter to Sri Lanka's Vishmi Gunaratne to Seshnie Naidu of South Africa, the next generational talents will be on display in UAE. While a few from the generation that kick-started the T20 game are still around, these and many new faces are ready to make their mark.

Captains of the all ten participating teams with the trophy in Dubai international Stadium on Wednesday | ICC TWITTER

The inaugural U19 World Cup in South Africa was a step long overdue from the ICC. However, the two-week-long tournament showcased the talent and mastery over the skills these players possessed and it was not surprising to see them leapfrogging to the senior team quickly. While the likes of India's Shafali Verma and Richa Ghosh, Pakistan's Aroob Shah, and Gunaratne were already familiar with the senior team setup, the competition just gave the boost to the inclusion of more of these players in the senior side. "I think this is a smart move. In my opinion, once you start exposing youngsters who have already been involved in World Cups they can gain more experience alongside the senior players," Former South Africa cricketer and current Girl's U19 and National Academy Head Coach, Dinesha Devnarain, told this daily.

"If you look at Australia, yes they have a good structure in place and have a lot of money invested in the system. But it is the experience that wins them the World Cups. That is probably why they don't have the U19 World Cup players in the squad. If we start introducing U19 players at the senior level, and by the time your senior players start to phase out, that U19 players would have the experience of international cricket for 3-4 years. Whereas before, you take a 25-year-old to make a debut, and by the time they get their share of experience, they are close to retirement," she added.

Devnarain also believes that if the young players have the skills to match up at the senior-level and are considered ready for the leap, they should be trusted more to take up more responsibility. After all, they are the ones who will push the game forward. "First and foremost they (U19 players) need to be the best based on their merit and skill level. Just being around the national camp, regardless of country, you mix in along with players who have played for a long time. They get to experience different conditions and different conditions. And I do believe that your youngsters are your modern-day cricketers. They bring a new flare to the game and make it exciting."

With the women's game following the data analytics part of men's cricket, the South African thinks there is more attention being paid to the player-to-player match-ups. And if a team is able to bring someone whom a lot of players have not faced at the international level or even at the franchise level, it can provide them with the X-factor necessary to win the games. "Having these youngsters around who have not played a lot of international cricket sort of does bring the X factor in the team. We are talking about T20 cricket and you select the bowler that no one knows, and you could potentially get four overs from that bowler, the opposition is busy trying to figure out plans during the World Cup could be difficult," she explained.

While the advantage may not last for long, it is something the teams would want to try sooner than later. "At one stage, the more the youngsters play the international game it will phase out but in the initial stage, it will work out. There are few youngsters to watch out for in this World Cup and I am excited to see how they go."

With every passing year, the way women's game is perceived at the global stage is changing. The younger talent coming into the game is more aware of what they need to do to make a meaningful impact on their teams. Starting today, the stage equally belongs to the young guns.

Young stars on the rise

After the inaugural U19 Women's World Cup last year, a number of teen-superstars have moved up the ranks. A look at some of them who can set the tournament alive in the UAE...

MARUFA AKTER (19, BAN)

The pace sensation is not new to the senior level. She was there in South Africa last year and lit up the stage with her raw pace. The pacer has only upskilled since the last edition and has the ability to take conditions out of the equation.

VISHMI GUNARATNE (19, SL)

From making headlines in school cricket to becoming one of the rising stars of Sri Lanka, Gunaratne has grown leaps and bounds in the last couple of years. The opening batter provides perfect foil to the skipper's aggression at the top.

SESHNIE NAIDU (18, SA)

The leg-spinner from South Africa is one of the talents to keep an eye on. Still very young in her international career — she made her senior debut in Pakistan last month — will be complementing Nonkululeko Mlaba in the middle-overs.

ZAIDA JAMES (19, WI)

The left-arm spin-bowling all-rounder was the leading wicket-taker for West Indies in the U19 WC. In the year after, she has already played 12 ODIs and 14 T20Is for WI. In all likelihood, she will share the new ball with Hayley Matthews.

KATHERINE FRASER (19, SCO)

From the age of 15 when she made her T20I debut, the offie has been earmarked as one for the future. Whether it is the RHF Trophy in England or for Scotland, wherever she plays, Fraser makes a mark. Will be crucial for Scotland's chances of causing upsets.

Spotlight on global affair

WITH THE WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP GETTING UNDERWAY ON THURSDAY, A LOOK AT THE TWO MATCHES ON THE OPENING DAY...

CAN SCOTLAND MAKE THEIR MARK?

World Cup debutants, who will take on Bangladesh, the original tournament hosts, will take fresh guard after their disappointing result against Sri Lanka in the warm-ups. That said, them beating Pakistan in practice games will give Kathryn Bryce and her team a lot of confidence.

NIGAR'S BANGLADESH LOOK TO RAISE THE BAR

As is often the case, up-and-coming teams rally behind their leaders and in Bangladesh's case, it's captain Nigar Sultana. They had their moments in South Africa last year without much to show in terms of result. But now, they are a much-improved side and will be looking to cause some upsets.

CHAMARI SETS HIGH STANDARDS FOR SRI LANKA

If Bangladesh look up to Nigar, for Sri Lanka, it is Chamari Athapaththu. The senior star, however, has instilled confidence in the youngsters and they have risen to the occasions. The result was visible last year and also during the recent Asia Cup win against India. They are a team other Group A members would be wary of.

BIG RESPONSIBILITY ON SANA

From making waves in ODI World Cup two years ago to leading the team now, Pakistan's Fatima Sana has come a long way. Only 22, she carries the responsibility of a team that is in dire need for inspiration. The fast-bowling all-rounder will need her experienced batting stars — Nida Dar, Muneeba Ali, Aliya Riaz — to step up.

TODAY'S MATCHES

- BAN vs SCO, Sharjah, 3.30 PM
- PAK vs SL, Sharjah, 7.30 PM

Group A: Australia, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
Group B: South Africa, England, West Indies, Bangladesh, Scotland

Live on Star Sports & Hotstar

TOURNAMENT FIXTURES

Oct 4: SA vs WI, Dubai, 3.30 PM; IND vs NZ, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 5: AUS vs SL, Sharjah, 3.30 PM; BAN vs ENG, Sharjah, 7.30 PM
Oct 6: IND vs PAK, Dubai, 3.30 PM; WI vs SCO, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 7: ENG vs SA, Sharjah, 7.30 PM
Oct 8: AUS vs NZ, Sharjah, 7.30 PM
Oct 9: SA vs SCO, Dubai, 3.30 PM; IND vs SL, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 10: BAN vs WI, Sharjah, 7.30 PM
Oct 11: AUS vs PAK, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 12: NZ vs SL, Sharjah, 3.30 PM; BAN vs SA, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 13: ENG vs SCO, Sharjah, 3.30 PM; IND vs AUS, Sharjah, 7.30 PM
Oct 14: PAK vs NZ, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 15: ENG vs WI, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 17: semifinal 1, Dubai, 7.30 PM
Oct 18: semifinal 2, Sharjah, 7.30 PM
Oct 20: Final, Dubai, 7.30 PM

Test hopefuls put on a show in front of selectors

FIROZ MIRZA @Lucknow

PRESENCE of national selectors here at the Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow has added a layer to the ongoing Irani Cup match between Ranji champions and Rest of India.

It is learnt that two of the five-member selection panel were present at the venue on Wednesday. With three from the India squad for the recently-concluded Bangladesh two-Test series playing the match along with other top contenders, selectors must have a lot to focus on on Day 2 of the contest. Sarfaraz Khan, who hammered a double century (221) on Wednesday for Mumbai, wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel and medium pacer Yash Dayal were released from the squad to play the match. Sarfaraz had already slammed three fifties in his five Test innings and another superlative show in the first innings for Mumbai will only work in his favour as he is likely to be retained in the squad of 16. But a crowded middle-order and KL Rahul's performance in the Bangladesh Test series meant finding a place in the playing XI will not be that easy.

India will play New Zealand in the three-Test series beginning October 16 in Bengaluru. They will then tour Australia for a five-match Test series. Dayal had some sessions with India bowling coach Morne Morkel before being released during the Kanpur Test. That translated into on-field success when he claimed crucial wickets of Ajinkya Rahane and Shreyas Iyer on the opening day. Mukesh Kumar scalped four to make his presence felt. Mumbai pacer Shardul Thakur will also like to push his case when he gets an opportunity both with the bat and ball. Prasidh Krishna will be another contender for a place in the team. Besides, uncertainty over availability of Mohammed Shami and Mohammed Siraj's not so impressive show of late may open the spot for these pacers.

Sarfaraz Khan hit a double century in the Irani Cup on Wednesday | FILE PIC

Chance in India A tour

While the playing XI spots look taken at the moment, what will be crucial for these Test hopefuls in the A tour Down Under this month. India A team will be travelling to Australia for two unofficial Tests against Australia A from October 31 to November 10. The players who have done well here and who make the most of the opening round in the Ranji Trophy that begins on October 11 are expected to get a chance in the A tour. And those two matches will be crucial in determining the reserves that Rohit Sharma and Co would want to have in the squad for the Test series. Ruturaj Gaikwad and top-order batter Abhimanyu Easwaran along with Tamil Nadu's B Sai Sudharsan could stake their claims to be part of travelling reserves, especially with the lack of options for the back-up opener slot.

In all probability Ajit Agarkar-led selection panel is expected to retain the squad which was announced for the Bangladesh series for India's next assignment against the visiting Kiwis. But a good show here may open the door of opportunity for these players. **Brief scores:** Mumbai 536/9 in 138 ovs (Sarfaraz 221, Rahane 97; Shreyas 57; Mukesh 4/109) vs ROI.

Alcaraz beats Sinner to win China Open

AGENCIES @ Beijing

CARLOS Alcaraz won seven straight points in the decisive tiebreaker to beat top-ranked Jannik Sinner 6-7 (6), 6-4, 7-6 (3) and win the China Open on Wednesday, extending his recent mastery over his biggest rival — who is dealing with an ongoing doping case.

The third-ranked Alcaraz has now won all three of his meetings with Sinner this year, having also come out on top in semifinals at Indian Wells and the French Open. "He could (have won) in two, I could win in two, he could win in three. It was a really close match," Alcaraz said. "Jannik, once again, he showed that he's the best player in the world, at least for me. The level that he's playing, it's unbelievable. It's a really high quality of tennis. Of shots, physically, mentally, he's a beast."

Alcaraz ended Sinner's winning streak at 15 matches and denied the Italian three straight titles after trophies in Cincinnati and at the U.S. Open.

Bengaluru FC maintain unbeaten run in ISL

AGENCIES @Mumbai

BENGALURU FC held Mumbai City FC to a 0-0 draw at the Mumbai Football Arena (MFA) in the Indian Super League (ISL) on Wednesday.

Bengaluru FC goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu stood tall to deny the home team from converting multiple goal-scoring chances, helping his team continue their unbeaten start to the campaign. With this result, the Blues have held on to their top spot in the standings with 10 points in four matches. On the other hand, the Islanders are placed 11th after two draws and a loss in their three games so far. The home team stepped into the game with plenty of purpose, driving the attack forward and outnumbering the Blues inside their box. Hmingthanmawia Ralte's curling cross from the right flank was met by the towering Nikolaos Karelis in the penalty area. However, Karelis' header was perfectly pre-empted and stopped by Sandhu in the 13th minute. Mumbai City FC kept teasing Sandhu. Yoell van Nieff's cross from a set-piece in the 25th minute was headed by Tiri from the far post towards the target. However, Sandhu closed down the gap swiftly and got a hand to the header to keep Petr Kratky's team at bay. Bengaluru FC responded with a solid effort by Edgar Mendez, who got to the end of ex-Mumbai City FC midfielder Alberto Noguera's lateral delivery and directed it on target in the 32nd minute. However, a vigilant Phurba Lachenpa showed quick reflexes to prevent the Islanders from conceding.

Action from the match between Bengaluru FC and Mumbai City Fc | ISL

The final half-hour of the match was fairly more balanced, with both teams eventually resorting to settling for a point each after five minutes of added time.

EXPRESS READ

Vishnu and Maaya move into quarters

NEW DELHI: Multiple Asiad medallist Vishnu Vardhan and Maaya Revathi reached the quarterfinals of the Fenesta Open National Tennis Championship in their respective categories. Vishnu beat Bhicky Sagolshem of Manipur 6-3, 5-7, 6-2. TN's Maaya beat Telangana's Saumya Ronde 6-3, 6-0.

Discontent in Pak camp over delay in retainers

KARACHI: There is growing discontent in the Pakistan cricket camp over the continued delay in disbursement of the player's monthly retainers. A source close to the players who are centrally contracted said the PCB is yet to disburse the monthly retainers and other sponsorship and share amounts.

Southee quits NZ captaincy, Latham to take over

AUCKLAND: Tim Southee has stepped down from New Zealand captaincy ahead of the three-Test series against India and Tom Latham has been appointed in the veteran pacer's place. Southee captained New Zealand in 14 Tests in which the Kiwis won six, lost six & drew two.

Top stars set for big moves in Global Chess League

AGENCIES @London

SEVERAL of the world's strongest chess players will vie for top honours when the six-team Global Chess League, the only professional sports league where men and women compete together, commences here on Thursday.

The league will witness the likes of five-time world champion and current World No 1 Magnus Carlsen, former world champion Viswanathan Anand, World No 2 Hikaru Nakamura, and one of the youngest players in the chess elite, 21-year-old Alireza Firouzja compete for their respective franchises in the event.

Besides, former women's world champions Hou Yifan, Alexandra Kosteniuk, Tan Zhongyi, and other leading Grandmasters are among the 36 players participating in the second edition of the league.

Triveni Continental Kings are the defending champions having clinched the title in Dubai last year with a dramatic last-minute win over the Ganges Grandmasters.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Dortmund score 7 past Celtic; Barca, City claim first wins

AGENCIES @ London

KARIM Adeyemi starred as Borussia Dortmund ran riot against Celtic while Barcelona and Manchester City claimed their first wins in the restructured Champions League on Tuesday.

Adeyemi scored a first-half hat-trick as Dortmund routed Celtic 7-1 at home. It was the second big win from a German team in the competition after Bayern Munich's 9-2 bashing of Dinamo Zagreb in the first matchday. Robert Lewandowski got Barcelona off the mark as the Spanish giant eased to a 5-0 home win over Swiss team Young Boys, while his former teammate Ilkay Gundogan got City off to a 4-0 win at Slovan Bratislava. Erling Haaland scored his 42nd goal in his 41st Champions League game.

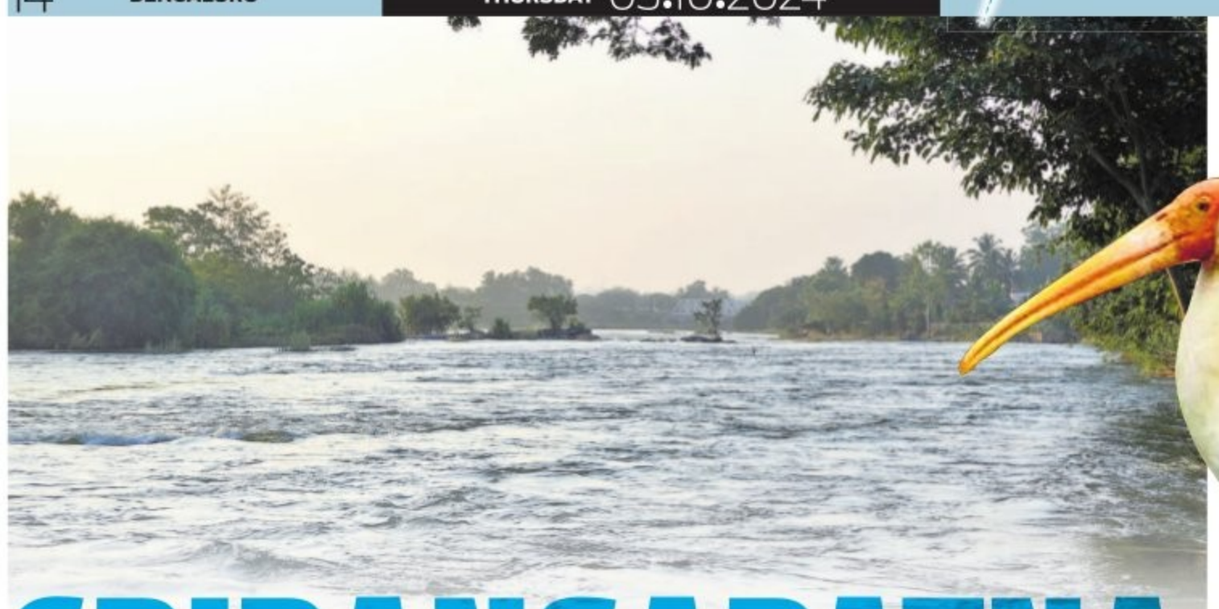
City were held 0-0 by Inter Milan in their opening game, while Barca responded to their 2-1 loss at Monaco, the team's first defeat under new coach Hansi Flick.

Arsenal's Kai Havertz (C) celebrates his teammate Bukayo Saka's goal vs Dortmund | AP

Mikel Arteta's Arsenal outclassed his former team Paris Saint-Germain in a 2-0 win with Kai Havertz and Bukayo Saka scoring in the first half for the Gunners. PSG coach Luis Enrique's gamble on leaving Ousmane Dembele out did not pay off. **Tuesday's results:** Slovan Bratislava **0-4** Man City; Arsenal **2-0** PSG; Barcelona **5-0** Young Boys; Inter **4-0** Crvena zvezda; Leverkusen **1-0** Milan; PSV **1-1** Sporting; RB Salzburg **0-4** Brest; VfB Stuttgart **1-1** Sparta Praha.

Delhi Airport rolls out The Fast Track Immigration Trusted Travellers Program to reduce the wait period.

Goa gets a new cruise terminal at Mormugao offering state-of-the-art facilities like duty-free lounges, shops and food courts.



SRIRANGAPATNA SERENADING!

Sprinkled with several historical landmarks, this islet destination near Mysuru is often overlooked...

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

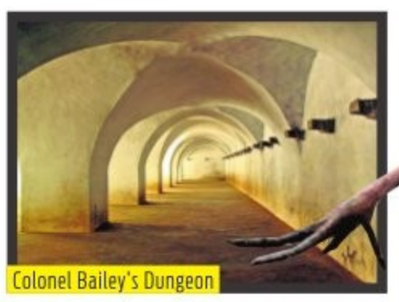
WHEN it comes to travelling in Karnataka, most people are quick to head towards the cultural hub of Mysuru to get a closer look at the bygone eras led by the royals. However, just 14 km away lies a lesser-known but equally captivating destination: Srirangapatna. This island town, nestled on the River Kaveri, is steeped in history, natural beauty and spiritual significance. Despite its proximity to the 'City of Palaces,' many travellers bypass this hidden gem. If you wish to explore this city then here are six must-visit places that promise an enriching experience.

Sri Ranganathaswami Temple

Srirangapatna's namesake, the Sri Ranganathaswami Temple, is one of the most revered Vaishnavite shrines in South India. Dedicated to Lord Ranganatha, a form of Vishnu, the temple is one of the *pancharanga kshetras* or five sacred shrines of Lord Ranganatha. Classified among the 108 *abhimana kshetrams* of the Vaishnavite tradition, this temple is not only a spiritual haven but also an architectural marvel. Its towering *gopuram* (gateway tower) and intricately carved stone pillars reflect the grandeur of Dravidian architecture. The temple's setting, on an island in the Kaveri, adds to its ethereal beauty.

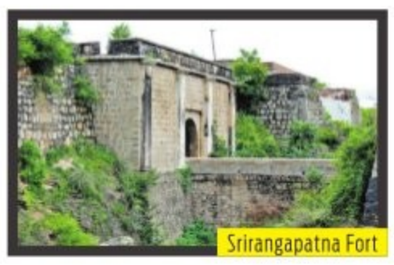
Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary

Just a few kilometres away from Srirangapatna, the Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary offers a completely different experience. Known as the *pakshi kashi* of Karnataka, this sanctuary comprises six islets on the Kaveri River. It's a paradise for birdwatchers, with broadleaf forests providing a safe haven for a variety of bird species. From the vibrant painted stork and Asian openbill stork to the elegant spot-billed pelican and woolly-necked stork, the sanctuary is teeming with avian life. Visitors can take guided boat rides on the river to get up close to the birds, making it an ideal escape for nature lovers.



Colonel Bailey's Dungeon

Sri Ranganathaswami Temple



Srirangapatna Fort

Daria Daulat Bagh

Srirangapatna holds immense historical significance, particularly as the stronghold of Tipu Sultan. The Daria Daulat Bagh or the 'Garden of the Sea of Wealth,' is Tipu Sultan's summer palace, built in 1784. Constructed mainly from teakwood, this palace is a vivid display of the art and culture of Mysuru's royal era. The walls and pillars are adorned with vibrant frescoes that depict battle scenes, portraits and floral patterns. The palace's interiors showcase intricate scrolls of foliage and the painted ceilings are a sight to behold.

Daria Daulat Bagh

Colonel Bailey's Dungeon

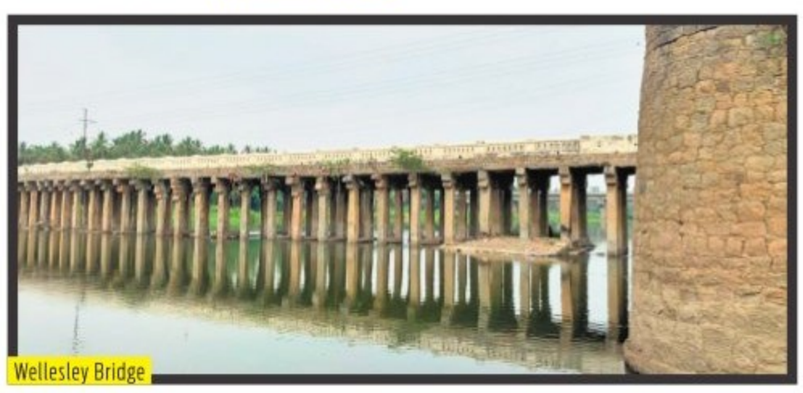
For a darker, yet equally intriguing slice of history, visit Colonel Bailey's Dungeon. Named after Colonel Bailey, a British officer who was imprisoned here, the dungeon served as a prison for British officers captured during the Anglo-Mysore Wars. The dungeon's grim atmosphere, with its massive iron chains and narrow cells, tells the story of the fierce resistance Tipu Sultan and his father, Hyder Ali, waged against the British Empire.

Wellesley Bridge

Another relic of this city's colonial past is the colonial bridge built in 1804. This stone bridge, constructed across the north bank of the River Kaveri, was a crucial artery for travellers heading from Mysuru to Bengaluru. Named after the then British Governor, Marquis Wellesley, the structure is a testament to engineering prowess, having withstood over two centuries of heavy traffic and seasonal floods. Its robust stone pillars and girders stand tall, offering a scenic view of the river and the surrounding landscape.

Srirangapatna Fort

Built in 1454 by Timmanna Nayaka, a ruler of the Vijayanagara Empire, the fort played a crucial role in the region's history. This strategic fort is uniquely protected on three sides by the river Kaveri, with the river forming a natural defence on the western and northern flanks. The fort is a reminder of the region's military and political significance and played a key role during the reign of Tipu Sultan, who defended it against the British during the Anglo-Mysore Wars.



Wellesley Bridge

THIS DATING APP LAUNCHES SOLO TRAVELLER'S GUIDE AND PASSPORT MODE FOR GEN Z GLOBE-TROTTERS

In the modern era of travel, these two apps are making it easier for solo travellers to embrace their wanderlust, build connections and plan adventures...

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Tinder, the renowned dating app, has unveiled the ultimate travel companion for young solo adventurers — *Solo Traveller's Guide* to *Tinder Passport*. Developed in collaboration with The Hosteller, India's popular self-operated backpacker hostel chain, this guide is designed to support the rising trend of solo travel amongst Gen Z travellers, helping them forge connections around the world while exploring new destinations independently.

Travel is currently the top interest on the app for young adults globally, particularly those aged 18 to 25. According to a recent survey conducted by the platform, 50 percent of Gen Z in India agree that a shared love for travel enhances the attractiveness of a potential match. In India, this trend is evident through a 17-fold increase in users mentioning 'solo travel' in their bios.

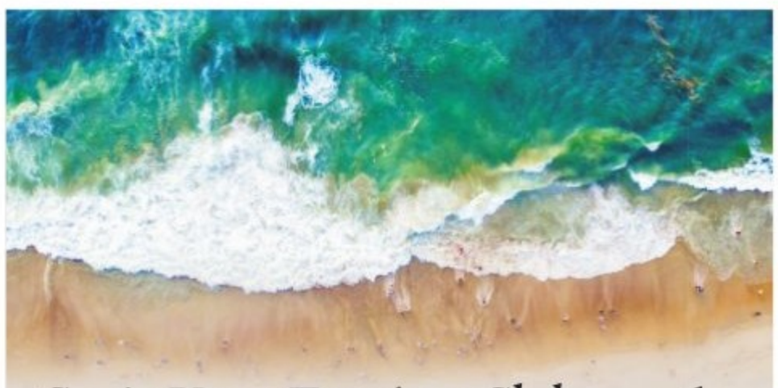
As the trend of solo travelling gains momentum, especially among Gen Z and millennials, the *Solo Traveller's Guide* offers essential tips for smart, safe travel while encouraging users to build meaningful connections both before and after they land. The guide highlights that a remarkable 78 percent of young singles across the Asia Pacific region are eager to make friends before arriving at their holiday spots.

For 2024, the top cities for young singles using the *Passport* feature include Bangkok, Tokyo, London, Seoul and Delhi. The app's *Passport Mode* has also been updated to appear directly on the users' profiles, signalling to others that they are open to making connections before arriving at their destination.

Solo travel is more than just a trend; it represents a journey of personal growth and discovery. As The Hosteller notes, there's been a noticeable surge in solo adventurers seeking authentic, safe and budget-friendly experiences in recent years. The hostel chain, which fosters connections between travellers and the cultures they explore, is well-positioned to empower solo travellers in India. Expanding on this vision, The Hosteller has partnered with *Tinder* to develop the *Solo Traveller's Guide*, a resource that helps adventurers connect authentically and navigate India's top backpacking destinations safely.

As Goa continues to lead in conscious and diverse tourism, the youth-driven Yuva Tourism Clubs are set to play a pivotal role in promoting sustainable and innovative travel experiences across the state...

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE



Goa's *Yuva Tourism Club* unveils Tourism Ambassador Programme

In honour of *World Tourism Day*, the *Department of Tourism, Government of Goa*, held a landmark event to recognise the remarkable contributions of over 150 *Yuva Tourism Clubs* across the state. This initiative is part of the Prime Minister's *India@75* campaign, engaging young Goans in responsible tourism and cultural immersion. The number of *Yuva Tourism Clubs* has seen impressive growth, expanding from around 30 clubs in 2023 to over 150 by 2024. Goa's commitment to promoting diverse tourism, including hinterland, wellness and spiritual experiences.

By partnering with local schools and colleges, these clubs aim to empower youth to actively shape Goa's tourism narrative, ensuring a sustainable and inclusive future for the community and its visitors. Several clubs were recognised for their outstanding efforts during the event. *Dnyanprassarak Vidyalaya* was honoured as the first school to establish a *Yuva Tourism Club*, while Goa College of Home Science in Campal, Panaji, received special mention as the first college to launch a club.

The *Yuva Tourism Club Meet* was hosted at the prestigious Darbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Dona Paula, on 26 September 2024. Drawing more than 1,000 students and youth representatives from educational institutions across the state, the event focused on exploring new tourism opportunities, promoting regenerative tourism practices and emphasising the role of youth in shaping Goa's future as a tourist destination.

Chief minister Pramod Sawant and tourism minister Rohan Khaunte unveiled several key initiatives during the event, including the *Yuva Tourism* website, the *Yuva Tourism Handbook* and the *State-Level Tourism Ambassador Programme* (beginner and advanced). These initiatives mark a significant step forward in youth engagement in the tourism sector.

In his address, chief minister Pramod underscored Goa's vast tourism potential, stating, "*Yuva Clubs* will play a crucial role in integrating Goan manpower into the hospitality sector. Collective efforts from the youth of Goa are essential to promote new avenues of tourism, including sustainable, wellness, adventure and spiritual tourism. We need young ambassadors to advocate for Goa and establish it as a premier destination for responsible and meaningful travel experiences, ultimately creating a lasting legacy for future generations."

TRAVEL DIARY

Air trains to hit Delhi Airport by 2027

Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport is set to unveil India's first air train system, designed to enhance connectivity between airport terminals, parking areas and other key facilities. Known as the Automated People Mover (APM), the system aims to significantly reduce transit time within the airport linking Terminals 1, 2 and 3, along with Aerocity and Cargo City, covering approximately 7.7 kilometres across four stations. Bids for the project, which are estimated to cost around ₹2,000 crore, are expected in October and November.

India welcomes its newest regional airline!

Shankh Air is set to become the first scheduled airline to launch from Uttar Pradesh, with a fleet of modern Boeing 737-800NG aircraft. These new-generation planes come equipped with the latest technology and amenities, promising a superior flying experience. The airline will hub over Lucknow and Noida, offering connections to all major Indian cities. Operating both inter and intra-state routes, Shankh Air aims to serve cities with high demand but limited direct flight options.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

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THURSDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Freedom for Iraq

After 12 years of British rule and centuries of Ottoman rule, Iraq became independent in 1932 and joined the League of Nations

EARLY HISTORY

A Hashemite monarchy was organised under British protection in 1921. Iraqi government maintained close ties with Britain, leading to several anti-British revolts

TREATY

The new treaty, valid for 25 years, was signed in June 1930. It provided for the establishment of a "close alliance" between Britain and Iraq

POST REVOLUTION

Following the 1958 revolution, President Qasim steered his country's foreign policy gradually away from the sphere of Western influence

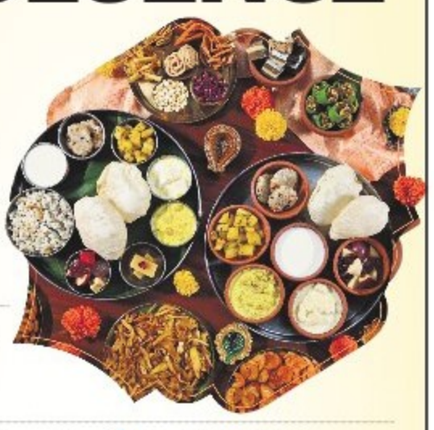
CE's guide to happenings in the city

PG 2

Whether you want to break your fast with a vegetarian satwik thali or enjoy a snack break on your dandiya night, here are five places to put you in the festive spirit with Navratri celebrations kicking off today

FESTIVE INDULGENCE

Festive Feast



Kick off the festive season alongside your loved ones with an authentic satwik thali meal featuring delicious offerings like paneer makhana and sabudana vada.

WHERE: Renaissance Bengaluru Race Course Hotel, Madhavanagar

WHEN: October 3-12, 7pm - 11pm **CALL:** 95139 44520

Disco, Dandiya and Delicacies

Get festive at this dandiya event and dance your heart out under neon lights and disco balls. A fusion of traditional and disco elements, it features the Energie Dance Crew, Bollywood band Swaradi Live and DJs Suprava Sarkar, Shad India among others.

WHERE: Lakeside Orion Mall at Brigade Gateway, Malleswaram

WHEN: October 5, 4pm onwards

Upwas Thali

Rajdhani's Navratri Upwas Thali promises a different rotation of delicious satwik vegetarian dishes each day. Crispy sabudana vada, farali pattice, samo rice with tomato dal, kele ki sabzi, fruit shrikhand and sabudana kheer are among the delicacies available to patrons.

WHERE: All Khandani Rajdhani outlets

WHEN: October 3-12,

CALL: 08047571931

Food Street

Indulge your street food cravings at the Indian Street Food Festival, featuring lip-smacking delicacies from across the country at over 20 food counters. It will also feature Xylo Bands Dandiya Night – Garba and Dandiya with a modern twist.

WHERE: Nexus Shantiniketan Mall, Whitefield

WHEN: October 4 - 5, 5pm - 11pm **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Flavours of Bengal

Taste the diverse flavours of Bengal on a specially curated Durga Puja Thali at Ishaara. Dishes include popular Bengali desserts like mishti doi and rasgulla along with traditional delicacies like murg jhol and slow-cooked kosha mangsho. Vegetarian options jhurjhuri aloo bhaja, crispy vegetable chop and moong dal with pea.

WHERE: Ishaara outlet, Phoenix Mall of Asia, Yelahanka

WHEN: October 8-12

CALL: 6360344856

Compiled by Mahima Nagaraju

Love or loathe the idea of dresses over pants, the trend is here again, and it's not without its charm. *CE* speaks with fashionistas and stylists on how to modernise the Y2K trend

LAYERING UP!

Zendaya

POOJA DAS

THE early 2000s were a time of bold fashion choices, with one of the most controversial trends being the layering of dresses over pants. Celebrities like Miley Cyrus and Jessica Alba popularised this combination, donning everything from vibrant halter dresses to neutral mini-dresses. The style sparked debate, with some embracing it as a unique statement and others dismissing it as a fashion faux pas. Yet, in a surprising twist, the dresses-over-pants trend is making a comeback – this time with a more refined and versatile approach.

With celebrities like Athiya Shetty, Gigi Hadid, and Blake Lively embracing the look on red carpets and casual outings, the trend has evolved, blending elements of high fashion and everyday wear. "I think the Y2K aesthetic has been around for the last two or three years, but it's really this early 2000s wave that we're riding right now," says Jayati Monga, a fashion stylist who works with an AI-based styling app.

For Bhoomi Dattani, a working professional, the return of this trend feels fresh. "The trend is coming back, but in a better version. It's like a blend of Western wear with the kurtas we already have," she says. Dattani appreciates how this trend provides an alternative to full ethnic outfits, allowing for flexibility. "You can throw on a long kurta or a printed dress over jeans, and it elevates the look without going full-on ethnic," she adds.

Monga offers a more technical take on how to make this look work in 2024. "The key thing is balance – pairing straight-fit or baggy pants with flowy dresses works really well," Monga advises. Dresses made from lighter fabrics, such as lace or sheer materials, are especially suited for this trend. She also emphasises that this trend offers a great way to repurpose pieces. "If you have a sheer dress you're not comfortable wearing alone, skip the slip and wear pants underneath. It's chic and perfect for layering."

When it comes to footwear, Monga prefers pointed-toe stilettos or kitten heels, which help balance out the volume of the outfit. "The biggest mistake people make is pairing skinny jeans with this look. Not only are skinny jeans out of style, but tight bottoms with a flowy dress are not what you should be going for as it looks like a kurta-and-leggings look," she says.

When it comes to styling, fashion stylist Meghana M believes that it is not as effortless as one might think. "It's definitely a challenge, but there are a few ways. You can mix and match with trendy items like utility pants or slim-fit pants paired with a long top or a long dress. For example, you could wear a ruffle-sleeved sleeveless dress or even experiment with the current trend of exaggerated sleeves. This draws attention to the shoulders and balances the entire look, making it more flattering," she shares.

Emma Watson

Gigi Hadid

She advises focusing on one area – either the top or the bottom – while keeping the other part minimalistic. "With spring and summer approaching, we'll see more bold, vibrant colours. You could wear a vibrant top while keeping the bottom minimalistic or vice versa," she explains.

While many stylists are leaning towards this revival, personal stylist Jaya Kumari takes a more sceptical stance on the trend, describing it as 'a fun, quirky fad' that is likely to fade. "I feel it's more of a statement piece for influencers or fashion-forward individuals, not a practical look for everyday wear," she says. Kumari believes the trend suffered from poor execution during its first wave, particularly when celebrities paired it with tapered or fitted pants. However, she does agree that if paired with asymmetric dresses, it can look good. "Make sure the hemline of the dress hits around the thigh if going for a straight fit. It's best to keep it simple and not overcomplicate it because there is already a lot going on at the top and bottom."

KNOW YOUR CITY

Arun Prasad, city-based history researcher, unravels interesting facts about Bengaluru in this weekly quiz series. So it's time for you to find out how familiar you are with the city, beyond its heritage buildings, IT parks and the pub culture.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Know Your City Quiz'** Correct answers and names of first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE*.

THE RIGHT ANSWERS ARE

1) Pulakeshi Nagara; 2) United Theological College; 3) India Tobacco Company (ITC Ltd)

FIRST THREE TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Manasi Sundaram; 2) Harini Kariappa; 3) Feroze Ahmed Sharief

CITY READ

Constitution-themed exhibit at NGMA

The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), Vasanth Nagar will be hosting Gandhi Jayanti celebrations on October 3-4. The event will feature a Constitution-themed doll collection as a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. Organised by the Ministry of Culture, the celebration aims to inspire visitors with Gandhian values and will showcase the rich heritage of Indian art and culture through this creative display.

Handicrafts exhibition till October 6

The Souq Market handicrafts exhibition, organised by Grand Flea Market, will be open till October 6 at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath. Inaugurated by content creator **Milan Singhal**, the event features over 100 stalls showcasing handmade crafts from across India. Singhal highlighted the market as an excellent destination for festival shopping ahead of Dasara.

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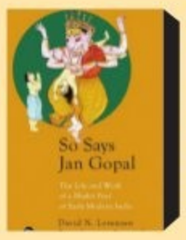
BOOK NOOK

Sad Tiger
By Neige Sinno

Sinno was seven when her stepfather started sexually abusing her. At 14, the abuse stopped. At 19, she decided to break the silence that is so common in all cultures around sexual violence. This led to a public trial and prison for her stepfather and Sinno started a new life in Mexico.

And the Stones Cry Out
By Clara Dupont-Monod

This is the story of a child with black eyes that float in and out of focus, With translucent, blue-veined legs, he is unable to hold his weight, and his place in the house where he was born.



So Says Jan Gopal: The Life and Work of a Bhakti Poet of Early Modern India
By Purushottam Agrawal and David Lorenzen

A study of the life and work of a remarkable 16th-century Bhakti poet, Jan Gopal. In addition to analysing his life and work, and locating him in the nirgun Bhakti tradition, the authors included excerpts from his works.

Happy People Read and Drink Coffee
By Agnes Martin-Lugand

Diane seems to have the perfect life. She is a wife, mother, and the owner of Happy People Read and Drink Coffee, a cozy literary café in Paris. But when she suddenly loses her husband and daughter in a car accident, the world as she knows it disappears.

RIDING HIGH

A horseman gently guides a child on a leisurely ride through the scenic paths of Cubbon Park | ALLEN EGENUSE J

QUICKFIX

AVIL PAYASAM

INGREDIENTS

- **Avil (flattened rice):** 300 g
- **Ghee:** 250 g
- **Cardamom powder:** 10 g
- **Milk:** 1.5 L
- **Raisins:** 20 g
- **Saffron:** 1 g
- **Cashew:** 50 g

METHOD

- Heat the pan on a medium-low fire and add ghee.
- When the ghee melts, add cashews and raisins and fry them till they turn golden.
- Remove it and keep it aside. In the same pan, once the ghee has melted, add the avil.
- Stir and mix the avil well in the ghee.
- Roast till the avil changes to a light golden hue.
- Add milk and saffron. Keep the heat on low and bring the mix to a boil for three minutes.
- Then add sugar, cardamom powder and mix well. Continue to simmer the payasam for three to five minutes.
- Switch off the fire. Add the roasted cashews and raisins to the payasam. Serve hot.

Contributed by **Mohammed Shaji**, Thiruvananthapuram

MISS-FIT

Wanitha Ashok

The writer is a Fit India Movement Ambassador and celebrity fitness coach

Chia seeds, kale, quinoa , and avocado are popular superfoods today. What are some local alternatives that offer the same benefits?

It is advisable to consume local crops that are grown within a 45-km radius. Here are some Indian alternatives to trendy superfoods:

- An alternative for chia seeds is sabja seeds or basil seeds. It's rich in omega-3 fatty acids, fibre, and antioxidants. Another one is flaxseeds which is also high in fibre, protein, and omega-3 fatty acids.

ASK AN XPERT

- Some alternatives for kale are spinach, sarson ka saag and amaranth. They are packed with iron, vitamins, antioxidants and fibre. Similarly, in place of quinoa, you can have millets. There are many types of millets available.The most popular one is ragi. Buckwheat also known as kuttu is gluten free, it's rich in protein and fibre.
- Avocado is also an Indian fruit. It's called butter fruit. It's rich in healthy fats, vitamins, and minerals. Some other Indian superfoods are turmeric, ginger, ashwagandha, and triphala.

FITBIT

NATARAJASANA WITH CHAIR

(DANCER POSE WITH CHAIR)

This is a supported variation of the foundational pose, Natarajasana (Dancer Pose). This offers the opportunity to explore the elegance of Dancer Pose while maintaining greater stability, inviting grace, balance, and strength into yoga practice. It is an excellent variation for practitioners of all levels, including beginners or those working on balance or flexibility. The chair offers a reassuring sense of safety.

STEPS

- Keep a chair with backrest handy. Stand in Tadasana about 1-1½ feet away from the chair, facing the backrest.
- Inhale, stretch the spine and roll your shoulders back. Exhale, place your hands on the backrest. Rest your hands on the chair.
- Inhale, lift your right foot and bend it behind, adjust the heel towards the gluteus.
- Exhale. Grab your right foot with your right hand from inside.
- Keep your right thigh in line with your left thigh initially. The left hand is holding the back of the chair.
- Inhale, press the right foot into the hand when lifting the right knee backward and upward. The pelvis remains neutral, avoiding excessive tilt forward or back.
- Lift your chest forward and upward, keeping the shoulders broad. Stay here for about six breaths or as per the body's capacity. Slowly release the pose and return to Tadasana.
- Take a few easy breaths here, noticing the sensations in the body.
- Repeat the pose on the other leg and finally relax in Three Part Breath Chair.

LIMITATIONS

- People suffering from severe back pain, heart problems, high blood pressure, duodenal or peptic ulcers, hernia, colitis or vertigo, low blood pressure, can avoid this.
- Do not overstretch the body or hold the pose for too long.
- Beginners can get the help of an expert for gaining balance.

BENEFITS

- Strengthens and stretches the spine, ankles, legs, thighs, chest, abdomen, thorax, and hips.
- Helps increase flexibility in spine, shoulders and hamstrings.
- Acts as a great stress buster, calming the mind.
- Helps improve the digestive system.
- Enables practitioners to focus on opening the heart centre.
- Helps improve cognitive function, clarity of thought, and overall mental agility.
- Develops balance and strength in a controlled, supported environment.
- Sense of groundedness and stability can promote emotional equilibrium.
- Prepares the mind and body for the basic pose and other standing-balancing poses.
- Helps focus on alignment, reducing the risk of overstraining.
- Opening the psoas helps alleviate pain by relieving strain on the lower back.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

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WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Relieve Stress

Take a break and join a discussion on stress, burnout, and relationships over coffee with an empathetic coach offering guidance and support.

WHEN: October 4, 7pm **WHERE:** Slay Coffee, Koramangala **DETAILS:** bookmyshow.com

Flute Magic

Join **Vidwan HS Venugopal** and the Gokulam School of Music for Panchavenu, a mesmerising flute ensemble at Yuva Dasara 2024. Let the soulful melodies uplift your spirit.

WHEN: October 3, 5.45pm
WHERE: Yuvapatha, Jayanagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Guiding Lights

Participate in a Deepavali-themed candle-making workshop, where you will learn to create vibrant, aromatic candles, perfect for home décor or as handmade gifts.

WHEN: October 3, 5pm
WHERE: Paint Café Studio, Whitefield
CALL: 76769 76701

Celebrating A Legacy

Attend a tribute to Pandit Kumar Gandharva and enjoy his timeless compositions and personal anecdotes shared by his daughter and disciple, **Kalapini Komkali.**

WHEN: October 4, 6.30pm
WHERE: Museum of Art & Photography, Kasturba Rd
DETAILS: map-india.org

Moulding Clay

Join a pottery workshop and learn hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques through guided instruction and practical experience.

WHEN: October 4, 2pm
WHERE: Wheel and Potter Pottery Studio, Srinivasa Nagar
DETAILS: wheelandpotter.com

Happy Hour

Take part in a lively pub crawl with drinks, DJs, and new social connections. A welcome drink awaits you at each location.

WHEN: October 4, 8.12pm
WHERE: By Chance, Shanthala Nagar
CALL: 95380 77777

Crafting Films

Attend a filmmaking workshop covering pre-production, production, and post-production. Engage in hands-on exercises to spark creativity, guided by filmmaker Aakash Prabhakar as you learn the basics of visual storytelling, camera work, and editing.

WHEN: October 5, 9am onwards
WHERE: NeeRav Arts Village, Bidadi
DETAILS: pehchaanexperiences.com

Evening of Laughter

Enjoy a comedy night featuring **Gangavathi Pranesh**, a popular Kannada television face and prepare for a fun-filled evening of laughter.

WHEN: October 4, 7pm
WHERE: Global Malls Divinity, Pantarapalya
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

ARTCORNER

BRIDGE OF DREAMS

Artist Kavya K's acrylic work captures the shimmering lights of New York City, with the iconic Manhattan Bridge standing tall, its golden lights reflecting like stars across the silent river below.

A-Z OF RETT SYNDROME

OCTOBER IS RECOGNISED AS RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH. EXPERTS HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF AWARENESS, EARLY DETECTION AND ONGOING CLINICAL TRIALS HOLDING PROMISE

VENNAPUSALA RAMYA

AWARENESS about rare diseases can sometimes prevent serious conditions from being overlooked. One such condition is Rett Syndrome, a rare neurological disorder that many people aren't familiar with. Learning about Rett Syndrome is crucial, especially because babies with the disorder are usually born after normal pregnancies and deliveries. Most infants with the disorder seem to grow and develop as expected for the first six months, which is why early signs and symptoms often go unnoticed. Since October is Rett Syndrome Awareness Month, *CE* reached out to local experts to shed more light on the disorder and what to watch out for. Rett Syndrome, a rare and severe neurological disorder, primarily affects girls and occurs in approximately 1 in 10,000 to 15,000 live female births, says Dr Vittal Kumar Kesireddy, consultant neonatologist and paediatrics. He further adds, "Caused by mutations in the MECP2 gene on the X chromosome, this disorder leads to significant impairments in cognitive, motor, and communication abilities. It typically manifests between 6 and 18 months of age, following a period of seemingly normal early development."

Dr Raja Sekhar Reddy G, consultant neurologist, says, "Rett Syndrome is seen almost exclusively in females because the mutation on the X chromosome is usually fatal to male fetuses. It occurs due to a spontaneous mutation in the MECP2 gene and is not usually inherited." The symptoms with which one can identify Rett Syndrome include slowed growth, particularly of the head (microcephaly), loss of purposeful hand movements, and repetitive motions such as hand-wringing or clapping. Other common symptoms include loss of speech, severe motor difficulties, breathing irregularities, seizures, and sleep disturbances. Children may also develop scoliosis, gastrointestinal problems, and difficulties with coordination and walking. The symptoms and their severity may vary for every child. Clinically, Rett Syndrome progresses through four stages according to Dr Kesireddy. "Early onset stagnation, rapid deterioration, plateau, and late motor deterioration. During the rapid deterioration phase, children lose previously acquired skills, such as the ability to speak or walk. Many also develop autistic-like behaviours, such as social withdrawal. The plateau phase often sees some stabilisation of symptoms but with persistent challenges in mobility and communication," he explains.

Rett Syndrome in males

Rett Syndrome is rare in males due to its link to the X chromosome. "Boys with MECP2 mutations typically experience more severe symptoms, including early-onset encephalopathy, and often do not survive past infancy. In rare cases, males with an extra X chromosome (Klinefelter syndrome) may present milder symptoms similar to females," he says, adding, "Life expectancy for females with Rett Syndrome varies, but many can live into middle age, with some surviving into their 40s or 50s, provided they receive appropriate medical care. In contrast, males with Rett Syndrome typically have a significantly reduced life expectancy."

Experts say that there is currently no cure for Rett Syndrome, but physical and occupational therapies, speech therapy, and medications can help manage symptoms and can significantly improve the quality of life for patients. "Ongoing clinical trials are exploring gene therapy and other innovative treatments that hold promise for the future," concludes Dr Kesireddy.

DISCLAIMER

The information provided on this page is not a substitute for medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the help of a medical professional regarding any health condition.

UNDERSTANDING FLAT FEET

Flat feet can lead to discomfort during physical activity, but with proper understanding and treatment, relief is achievable for those affected

DR RAJESH SIMON

A flat foot or loss of arch in the foot isn't an unusual condition. In this case, the arch is lower than typical, resulting in the entire foot making contact with the ground. While many have flat feet without any issues, others may experience pain and discomfort, especially during physical activities. It is important to note that we are all born with flat feet. The arches typically develop as we grow. The arch in a child usually develops by six to seven years of age. However, parents often get worried about the condition in the infant stage and bring their kids asking for evaluations and solutions for flat feet.

One of the common reasons for this condition especially in children is genetic. However, these are usually flexible flat feet and painless, and the treatment for the same is done generally to educate the family and supervise any progress of pain. In certain conditions like cerebral palsy or any neuromuscular disorder, flat feet can be painful and would require proper evaluation and at times surgery.

There are a few cases in children, where flat foot deformity is quite severe with the heel pointing grossly outside. These children would experience difficulty walking fast and at times pain. In such situations, customised footwear might bring some relief. However, a more effective alternative is keyhole surgery. This procedure involves placing a metal stent to help the feet get back to normal shape.

Among adults, flat feet are a painful condition which is unfortunately ignored or mismanaged. There are varied causes of flat feet development in adults. This includes injury/fracture to the foot, disease involving the tendon and ligaments of the foot, arthritic conditions, diabetes, obesity etc. The treatment is quite individualised. While many practitioners recommend arch-support footwear for adults, numerous studies have shown that this approach is often ineffective. Instead, a fully customised insole is essential.

Symptoms

Many individuals with flat feet experience few to no symptoms. However, some common signs include pain, swelling along the inside of the ankle, and difficulty in standing on tiptoes. If such symptoms prevail, it is essential to consult an orthopaedic surgeon, especially a foot and ankle surgeon. The diagnosis is made with a good physical examination of the feet and legs with a review of your medical history and also through weight-bearing X-rays. In certain situations, MRI can also assess the problem.

Treatment Options

While flat feet can't always be prevented, there are ways to promote foot health like wearing the right footwear, staying active with good toning of foot, ankle and calf muscles and maintaining adequate body weight. Treatment for flat foot varies depending on the age, underlying cause and severity of the condition:

- **Conservative Management**

Footwear along with customised insoles gives adequate support to the foot and it can significantly alleviate discomfort. Additionally, strengthening exercises for the foot and leg muscles can help improve arch support and reduce pain. For flat feet, medications do not have a role, other than painkillers.

- **Surgical Options**

If the conservative management proves ineffective, then surgery is the mainstay of treatment. In children, a minor surgery may be needed but in adults, the realignment of bone, tendon and muscles is required. Today with a better understanding of the biomechanics of the foot, a good surgical reconstruction of the flat foot is seen as an effective solution. With the right treatment management strategies and proactive care, one can keep their feet healthy and functional for years to come.

(The writer is senior consultant foot and ankle orthopaedic surgeon at VPS Lakeshore Hospital)

NUGGETS

Hospital chain marks World Heart Day

Sparsh Group of Hospitals recently marked World Heart Day, aiming to raise awareness about cardiovascular health and the importance of preventive care. The event at was attended by Dinesh Gundu Rao, Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka, and Rizwan Arshad, Member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly. Additionally, SPARSH Hospital, Yeswanthpur, organised a Cricket League, Season 2, while 'Heartful Harmony 2.0' was organised at the RR Nagar hospital.

Hospital sets new record for CPR performance

On September 30, Manipal Hospitals set a new Guinness World Record with 3,319 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) performances during their 'Mission 3K – 3000 Hearts, One Beat' initiative. The event, conducted in a 24-hour relay format, emphasised the importance of learning CPR for emergencies. Dr H Sudarshan Ballal, chairman of the hospital said, "Our goal is not just to set a record by performing 3,000 continuous CPRs, but to spread an important message — CPR saves lives. If someone experiences a sudden collapse or heart attack, CPR can revive them. "

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ANITA** is legally wedded spouse of No. **2777535 M**, Rank: **HAV**, Name: **P E PONNAPPA**, presently residing at #29, 2nd A Cross, Defence Colony, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru - 560073, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **ANITA** to **P P ANITHA**, vide Affidavit Dated: 25/09/2024 duly Sworn to Before **Sri. Ramasanjeevaiah. K.V.**, Advocate and Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **K.S. NAGARAJA**, S/o Sundarappa, age 43 years, R/at No. 79, 1st Block, Bhajanamandir Road, Kengeri Hobli, Kumbalgodu, Bengaluru-560 074 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **K.S. NAGARAJA** to **RAJU**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **RAJU** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 1st October 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. CHITRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RANGANAYAKI RAO** W/o H.K.Rajagopal, aged about 56 years, and Previously called as **Ranganayaki Nagabhushan Rao,** R/at No.202, 2nd floor, U R Residency K.L.V.Layout, near Sangamitra residency, J.P.Nagar, 8th Phase, Bangalore - 560078, Karnataka.
I have changed my name from **"RANGANAYAKI NAGABHUSHAN RAO,** To **"RANGANAYAKI RAO"** vide affidavit dated: **01-10-2024** sworn to before **Neha Baddi** Advocate & Notary, at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GOPI KRISHNA CHICKKABALLAPUR VYRAMODI** (old name) S/o CHICKKABALLAPUR VYRAMUDI aged About 69 years Residing at NO. 185,1ST MAIN,1ST F CROSS,NEAR MONKEY PARK, 3RD STG, 4TH BLOCK, BASAVESHWARANAGAR BANGALORE-560079 I have changed My Name as **GOPIKRISHNA CHICKKABALLAPUR VYRAMUDI** Affidavit Dated 01/10/2024 Sworn before Notary Deepa M.

CHANGE OF NAME
I,**(OLD NAME) MOHMMAD AJEEDABI,** Mother of NO.16120885Y NK MOHMMAD HYMATH PASHA, House NO.6-45, Vill: Narsingapoor, Tehsil: Veenavanka, Dist: Karimanagar, State: TELANGANA, PIN: 505502, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) MOHAMMAD AJEEDHA,** And **DOB** from **12.03.1973** to **01.01.1976** Vide Affidavit Dated 01.10.2024 Sworn Before Notary S.I.BALAGURU BANGALORE

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) MOHMMAD RAFI,** Father of NO.16120885Y NK MOHMMAD HYMATH PASHA, House NO.6-45, Vill: Narsingapoor, Tehsil: Veenavanka, Dist: Karimanagar, State: TELANGANA, PIN: 505502, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) MOHAMAD RAFI,** And **DOB** from **08.06.1967** to **15.06.1971** Vide Affidavit Dated 01.10.2024 Sworn Before Notary S.I.BALAGURU BANGALORE

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SERVICE NO. JC-310943L SUB MAJ SUBAS CHANDRA BOSE S, Residing at NO.21, Army Colony, Vidyasagara, Dr. SRK Nagar Post, Bengaluru, KARNATAKA (State), PIN: 560077, Have Changed My Daughter Name **(OLD NAME) SUBASHREE** to **(NEW NAME) S SUBASHREE,** And Son Name **(OLD NAME) GOVARDHAN** to **(NEW NAME) GOVARDHAN S,** Vide Affidavit Dated 01.10.2024 Sworn Before Notary S.I. BALAGURU BANGALORE.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) SMT JAYAMMA,** Spouse of NO. 1331347 Late Ex- Sep G KUPPUSWAMY, Residing at # 44, 5th Cross, Sanaulla Layout, Sultanpalya, RT Nagar Post, Bengaluru, KARNATAKA (State), PIN: 560032, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) K JAYAMMA,** Vide Affidavit Dated 01.10.2024 Sworn Before Notary S.I.BALAGURU BANGALORE.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) RADHAKRISHNAN KP,** Father of NO. JC-311626W SUB MAJ RATHEESH KP, Residing at Kozhikkal House, Cherukulathur (Post), Peruvayal (Vill), Kozhikode (Tehsil & Dist), KERALA (State), PIN: 673008, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) RADHAKRISHNAN,** And **DOB** from **01.07.1946** to **01.01.1949,** Vide Affidavit Dated 20.09.2024 Sworn Before Notary S.I. BALAGURU BANGALORE

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) SANTHA,** Mother of NO. JC-311626W SUB MAJ RATHEESH KP, Residing at Kozhikkal House, Cherukulathur (Post), Peruvayal (Vill), Kozhikode (Tehsil & Dist), KERALA (State), PIN: 673008, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) SANTHAKUMARI,** And **DOB** from **01.07.1951** to **01.01.1951,** Vide Affidavit Dated 20.09.2024 Sworn Before Notary S.I. BALAGURU BANGALORE

CHANGE OF NAME
I, PRATHAM MUDAKAVI S/o Prakash Mudakavi, Residing at No. 9, 1st Main Road, Vinayaka Layout, Medarahalli, Chikkabanavara Post, Bengaluru - 560090. Hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PRATHAM P MUDAKAVI / PRATHAM PRAKASH MUDAKAVI** to **PRATHAM MUDAKAVI** vide affidavit dated 10.09.2024 sworn to before **I Kanikha Raja**, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **L. Jayasimha** (Old Name), S/o. Late Lakshminarayana Sastry @ Lakshmi Narasimha Sastry aged about 60 years, R/at Plot No. 155, Near Basaveshwara Temple, Nagashetty Halli, RMV Extension II Stage, Bangalore - 560 094 have changed my name as **JAYASIMHA L BHARADWAJ** (New Name) vide affidavit dated 27.09.2024 sworn before Advocate & Notary Mohammed Hussain K

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) AZAD** residing at No.34, C.K.Palya, Bhavani Nagar, Chikkabidarakallu, Bangalore 560073, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) AZAD** to **(NEW NAME) AZAD SINGH** vide affidavit dated 21.09.2024 sworn before Notary Deepa.M., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **No.14648145W CHM RAMACHANDRAN T,** resident at No.06/135, Vill: Sree Anandavalli Amannagar, Po: Manamadurai, Teh: Manamadurai, Dist; Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu-630 606, have changed my minor Daughter's name **KANISHKA** to **R KANISHKA** Vide Affidavit dated 04.09.2024 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru.

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THANKSGIVING
Thanks for favours and blessing received continue to bless us the favours we seek.
SRINIVAS AND FAMILY

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Thanks for favours and blessing received continue to bless us.
RICHARD FLORANCE & FAMILY

THANKSGIVING
Thanks for favours and blessing received continue to bless us.
RICHARD FLORANCE & FAMILY

THANKSGIVING
Thanks for favours received bless our family and give us good health always.
VIJAYA, BHARATHI, VENUGOPAL, PRASHANTH, JYOTHI, NITHIN, VAISHNAVI, PRAVEEN, DEEPA, NITHISH.

THANKSGIVING
Thank you Infant jesus for all the graces, mercies and blessings bestowed on my family thru your intercession to the Heavenly Father., Seeking your blessings always. TREESA JOSEPH AND FAMILY

THANKSGIVING
THE MIRACLE PRAYER
Dear Heart of Jesus. in the past. I have asked for many favors. This time. I ask you this very special favor (mention favor). Take it dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favor. not mine.
Amen. Say this prayer for 3 days, promise publication and favor will be granted. no matter how impossible. Never known to fail.
Thank you for the favors, graces and blessings received, seeking continous blessings on my family always
JOSEPH GEORGE

'IF YOU CRAVE ACTION, *MARTIN* WILL EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS'

Stunt choreographer Ravi Varma, along with the Ram-Lakshman duo and the rest of the technicians—DOP Satya Hegde, music director Ravi Basrur, and dance masters Imran Sardhariya and Murali Master—vouch for the film's groundbreaking approach

A SHARADHAA

AS *Martin*, starring Dhruva Sarja in the lead role, approaches its release, the makers promise a game-changer for the action genre. Directed by AP Arjun and penned by noted actor-filmmaker Arjun Sarja, the action-heavy film is set to be released on October 11. It is produced by Uday Mehta with an astonishing budget of 120 crores, ensuring a grand cinematic spectacle.

While Dhruva takes centre stage, *Martin* thrives as a collaborative actioner, which brings together an exceptional crew. While cinematographer Satya Hegde captures the essence of the story, he declares, "It is the most expensive cinematic experience I've ever worked on in my career." Ravi Basrur, who has worked on the background score, says that *Martin* will envelop viewers in a rich auditory landscape that heightens the film's narrative. "In just 20 minutes, *Martin* delivers a cinematic experience worth every penny," Basrur mentions. It has additional contributions from composer Mani Sharma on the film's songs.

The choreography is brought to life by dance masters Imran Sardhariya and Murali Master. Imran explains, "We are reshaping the future action sequences in Indian cinema with unmatched intensity." At the same time, Murali adds, "In *Martin*, I experienced the magic of music. This is truly the most extravagant title song ever created in Indian cinema. I'm grateful to have been part of it."

The film's innovative action sequences are a standout feature, orchestrated by renowned stunt choreographer Ravi Varma. With a rich portfolio spanning South Indian and Bollywood films, Ravi Varma has designed five adrenaline-fueled sequences, including a climactic showdown in collaboration with the esteemed Ram-Lakshman duo. He states, "These action sequences are not merely for spectacle; they offer a fresh perspective on the genre, pushing boundaries and challenging conventions."

Ravi Varma explains the significance of storytelling through action in *Martin*: "The rushes you've seen are just a glimpse; there are over a thousand shots like this waiting to be experienced." While the action takes the spotlight, it is enhanced by cutting-edge CGI during post-production.

He attributes the film's ambitious sequences to AP Arjun's visionary direction along with the steadfast support from producer Uday Mehta. Ravi Varma describes some remarkable moments: "From high-speed chases to a vehicle igniting in mid-air while the actor delivers dialogue inside a flaming car, nothing is conventional in this film." He points out that *Martin* sets a new standard for Kannada cinema, featuring chase sequences typically reserved for high-budget Telugu and Bollywood films, all captured in the heart of Bengaluru.

"If you crave action, *Martin* will exceed your expectations. Every chase and fight unfolds on a huge scale," Ravi Varma asserts. The Ram-Lakshman duo adds, "In every strike, we blend passion and precision; this is our finest action composition yet. With each move, we weave a story; this composition is the pinnacle of our craft."

Imran Sardhariya, Giorgia Andriani, and AP Arjun

Murali

Satya hegde

Dhruva Sarja and Ravi Varma

Ramesh Aravind and Anu Prabhakar

CE FEATURES

'Every ritual and mantra showcased in *Bhairadevi* is rooted in reality'

Radhika Kumaraswamy, Ramesh Aravind, Anu Prabhakar, and director Shrijai discuss their upcoming film, set to release today

POST *Bhairadevi*, I've conquered my fear of ghosts and the eerie stillness of graveyards at midnight," says Radhika Kumaraswamy, who is making her much-anticipated return to the silver screen with the horror drama *Bhairadevi*, directed by Shrijai. The film also stars Ramesh Aravind, Anu Prabhakar, Shivaram, and Ragayana Raghu. As *Bhairadevi*, which has been a long time in the making, prepares to hit theatres on October 3, the team gathered to share insights about this project, which Radhika produced under her banner, Shamika Enterprises. The film was first released in Kannada, followed by Tamil and Telugu.

Initially, Radhika discussed her dual roles: a female Aghori and the titular *Bhairadevi*. Revealing details about her past fears and unique shooting experiences, she admits, "Before filming, I was terrified of ghosts and wouldn't even enter a room alone." The thought of shooting in a graveyard filled her with dread. "I suggested that we build a set, but the director insisted on using a real graveyard, with vibhooti (holy ash) smeared on my face." This experience not only confronted her fears but also ignited her passion for the role.

Radhika had never encountered the concept of female aghoris before taking on this project, which inspired her to delve deeper into her character. After seeing the first test look, she felt compelled to deliver her best performance. "I hope *Bhairadevi* becomes one of the standout films of my career," she states confidently.

Director Shrijai reveals his ambitious vision for *Bhairadevi*, highlighting the extensive research he undertook on Aghori traditions to authentically depict this mysterious world. "Every ritual and mantra showcased is rooted in reality, not mere cinematic embellishments. We shot in real graveyards to ensure an immersive atmosphere," he explains.

Ramesh Aravind, who is returning as a cop after his role as a detective in Shivaji Surathkal 2 (2023), reflects on the lasting impact of Apthamitra (2004), sensing a similar electrifying energy in *Bhairadevi*. "After Apthamitra, I hadn't revisited the horror genre, so this role felt like a thrilling challenge," he notes, adding, "The director was determined that I take on this role, which ultimately made me reconsider."

Anu Prabhakar, who also portrays a key role in the film, notes, "We shot simultaneously in three languages, and I was delighted to dub in Telugu, having perfected the language." She expresses her joy at reuniting with Ramesh after Hoomale (1998) and admits her apprehension towards horror films. "I'm usually afraid to watch them, but I viewed *Bhairadevi* as part of my profession," she chuckles. Anu also encouraged Radhika, stating, "I believe Radhika should continue acting and producing impactful films."

Radhika Kumaraswamy

Vritta is a thriller that connects with Today's audience: Likith Kumar

CE FEATURES

VRITTA, directed by Likith Kumar S, has wrapped up shooting and is gearing up for release this November. This upcoming thriller mystery film showcases a distinctive narrative, with a motion poster that has already garnered significant appreciation. The film's teaser will be launched by Sathish Ninasam this Friday.

Likhith states, "While the elements of thriller are primary, the presentation will be special. Viewers familiar with recent films will find *Vritta* connects with them differently. The technical aspects and the character arcs hold the entire film together, featuring many elements that will resonate with today's generation."

He describes Vritta, produced by T Shivakumar under the Lakshya Arts banner, as a distinctive attempt centred around Siddharth, whose single mistake sets the narrative in motion. "One of the film's standout features is its use of synchronised sound, which adds a layer of depth to the storytelling," he adds.

The cast includes Maahir Mohiddin, Chaithra J Achar, and Harini Sundara Rajan. Praising the young actors, Likhith says, "Despite their youth, they have done justice to their roles and will soon make a mark on a larger scale."

The film features a collaborative effort, with Yogesh Gowda contributing to the script, editing by Suresh Armugam, dialogues by Shankar Raman S, cinematography by Gowtham Krishna, and music composed by Anthony MG and Hari Krishanth S.

A still from the film

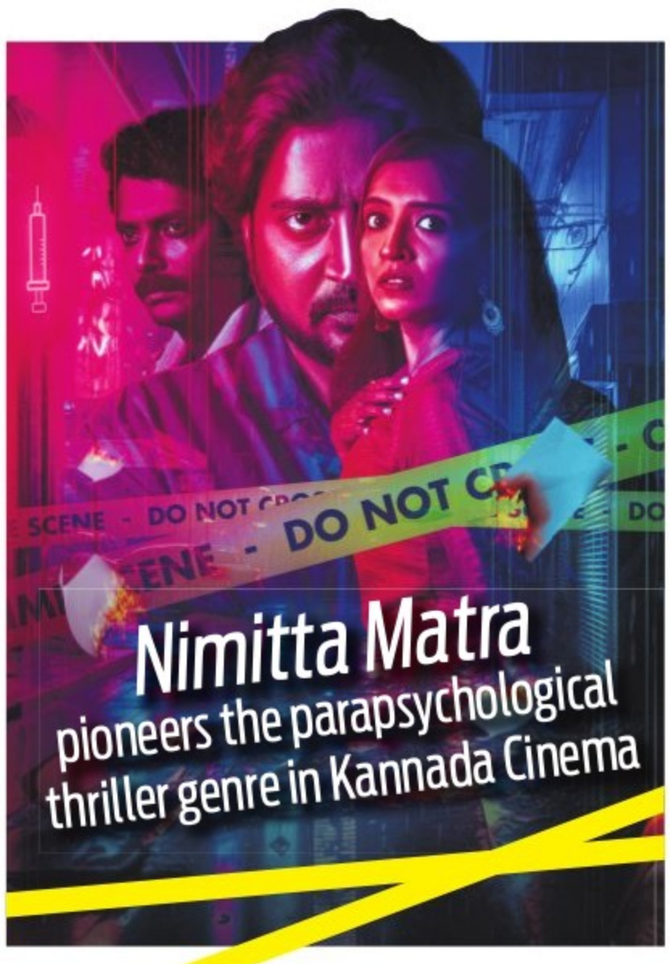
CE FEATURES

NIMITTA Matra is set to be a fresh addition to Kannada cinema, marking its inaugural venture into the parapsychological thriller genre. Directed by Roshan D'Souza, a software engineer-turned-filmmaker, this film features a cast that includes Poornachandra Mysore, Sangeetha Rajeev, and Aravind Kuplikar. Set against the vibrant backdrops of Bengaluru and Mangaluru, the film explores themes that delve deep into the unexplained and the paranormal.

The story revolves around a haunting incident from 15 years ago in Mangaluru. An investigative journalist, inspired by his father's legacy, seeks to uncover the truth behind this chilling event. Central to the film are compelling questions: Will he unravel the mystery? Will justice be served? These suspenseful inquiries drive the narrative.

Director Roshan D'Souza observes, "Certain outcomes cannot be scientifically explained. They exist beyond science." He highlights examples like Nostradamus, whose prophecies have captivated humanity for centuries, setting the stage for the film's exploration of phenomena that defy conventional understanding.

Nimitta Matra is anchored in a fictional incident that ignites a wider investigation, revealing deeper connections as the story unfolds. "The title itself signifies a message, intricately weaving layers of suspense and drama," says Roshan, who not only directs but also serves as the writer and editor for the film.

Sangeetha Rajeev, known as SaRa, plays the female lead while also taking on multiple roles in the film, including co-writer and associate director. "I'm probably the first to play the lead while also directing the music," she shares, marking her debut in both music direction and acting in Kannada cinema.

Meanwhile, Dhanraj from the Kannada Film Club, a non-profit organisation, is supporting this innovative film through innovative promotions ahead of its release.